

DESERT WIND

2016 Carménère

Cases produced:	92
Vineyard:	Desert Wind Vineyard ('12 Block).
Appellation:	Wahluke Slope, WA
Blend:	95% Carmenera, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon
Harvested:	October 20, 2016
Fermentation:	Open top fermentation with punch downs twice daily; 8 days of skin contact
Final #s:	Alcohol 13.5 % • TA 0.56 g/100ml • pH 3.93

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The 2016 Desert Wind Carménère is the first vintage we have bottled of this varietal as a standalone wine since it was planted in 2012. The Carménère was picked in late October with the extra time on the vine to allow it to ripen fully. The wine was fermented in open top bins with twice daily punch downs, with a total of eight days of skin contact. Following fermentation, the wine was aged for 16 months in barrel. The resulting wine has notes of black raspberry, plum, pepper and earth. The long finish is complimented by low acidity and soft tannins.

VINEYARD NOTES

The Wahluke Slope is located in Eastern Washington's Columbia Valley. The site is considered Zone 3, the hottest in the region. Our 480-acre vineyard is a southern facing block with a two percent slope and shallow, rocky soil. The vines are irrigated with an underground drip system; double catch wires are used to increase air circulation during the growing season. Leaf pulling and cluster thinning are important steps in aiding the ripening of the grapes.