

DESERT WIND

2014 Merlot Wahluke Slope, WA

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| Cases produced: | 2,511 |
| Vineyard: | Desert Wind Vineyard |
| Appellation: | Wahluke Slope, WA |
| Harvested: | September-October 2014 |
| Fermentation: | Closed top fermentation with circulations two-three times per day; eight-ten days of skin contact. |
| Blend: | 92% Merlot, 3% Malbec, 3% Syrah, 2% Barbera |
| Final #s: | Alcohol 15.0 % • TA 0.61 g/100ml pH 3.60 |
| UPC: | 768154231687 |

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The 2014 growing season was unusually warm in eastern Washington's Wahluke Slope viticultural area. The resultant high sugar content in our Merlot grapes from our Desert Wind Vineyard produced a wine with a higher alcohol content; yet the wine remains balanced with sultry tannins. Our 2014 Desert Wind Merlot displays aromas and flavors of fig, plum, blackberry, and chocolate. Our Merlot is enjoyable alone or with a wide array of cheeses and charcuterie. Enjoy now or cellar for five to seven years.

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.

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