

# Tasting Notes

## 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley



**Vintage Notes:** 2009 was an almost perfect vintage cut short ONCE AGAIN by the ever lurking chance of frost. This time it dawned upon us second week of October. A very hot beginning of summer raised many an eyebrow and the out look for over ripe plummy wines were present. Luckily temperatures during the ripening phase came down and hovered a little under normal which certainly saved the vintage and maintained fresh acidities and good balance in the picked grapes! The harvest was fast and furious due to the early development of the grapes and we were done picking our high end blocks close to three weeks earlier than normal! Very intense!!! The grapes came in with very thick skins especially the Merlot was probably the thickest skins we have seen in years. That's a good thing! Berry sizes on i.e. Cabernet Sauvignon were also good showing smaller which gave us extremely concentrated wines with acidity maintained above average! That's also a good thing!!! Tannins this year are present and fresh with great promise of barrel aging! In general all our wines show great finesse, character and structure. So hang in there and await another great vintage from Bergevin Lane Vineyards.

### Tasting Notes:

...MOONSPELL, A luring name and a luring wine. Intricate power and delicious balance. Dark fruits especially black berries and black currant cassis followed by mineral, earth, balanced smoky oak and plenty of spice. Dense and thick the entirety of the mouth is coated with rich concentrated flavors while the tannins, fine and ripe, linger elegantly behind leaving the impression of pure Washington fruit and terroir. The most perfectly balanced Cabernet bottling so far without a doubt... New world marries old world!!! (could the missing link have been found here...)

### Appellation/Vineyards:

Stone Tree (WS): 47%, Double Canyon (HHH): 23%, Les Collines (WW): 21%, Pepper Bridge (WW): 9%.

**Final Blend:** 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot, 9% Malbec and 4% Petit Verdot.

**Aging:** 20 months in 82 % French Oak, 12% American Oak and 5% Hungarian.

### Bottle Date, Alc., & Cases Produced:

August 23, 2011 14.3% alc. 786 Cases (750 ml) + 10 cases of Magnum (1.5 liters)

### Winemaking notes:

The Columbia Valley Cabernet blend is my favorite and most challenging blend to make. This year the Horse Heaven Hills were introduced big time again via a new vineyard we have that came online! Stone Tree on the Wahluke Slope as always outshines all others in terms of dark fruit and overall power. Horse Heaven Hills adds structure and finesse full elegance while Walla Walla adds minerals and earth to complete a blend where all individual lots had more than 3 weeks of maceration time followed by malolactic conversion entirely in barrel. A full bodied elegant and complex wine is the goal. Mission accomplished.