

Tasting Notes



2013 Calico Red Columbia Valley

Vintage Notes: The 2013 growing started slowly, with an extended bloom period due to cooler than average temperatures. After bloom we couldn't have programmed better growing conditions. Very warm days and cool clear nights were the norm. A few scattered thunderstorms hit sections of the growing area but there was no significant rainfall after early June, allowing for precise canopy management. Through July and August we had warmer than normal temperatures and no rainfall. Harvest ended up starting about a week early from the warm sites, but as things cooled off we were able to slow down things in the Walla Walla valley and allow the fruit to get fully mature for perfect flavors. Over all the 2013 vintage will prove to be an excellent vintage.

Tasting Notes:

The building blocks of this blend are always Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah and Merlot. We use the remaining varietals as our spice cabinet to round and polish the wine. Envision a blueberry, a blackberry & a cherry in a cedar chest, this best describes the nose. Blackberry and ripe black cherry dominate the palate, while a light touch of vanilla bean and cocoa powder round things out. The finish is silky cocoa-cassis that fills the mouth and lasts and lasts.

Appellation/Vineyards:

Stone Tree Vineyards (57 % Wahluke Slope); Les Col-line, Francisca's Vineyard, & Bergevin Springs (42% Walla Walla) Pontin Del Rose (2% Yakima Valley)

Final Blend:

30% Syrah, 28% Merlot, 26% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Petit Verdot, 7% Malbec & 2% Carmenere

Aging: 20 months in neutral 228 liter French & American barrels

Bottle Date & Cases Produced:

June 29, 2015 1629 cases Alcohol: 13.9%

Winemaking Notes: Hand Picked grapes are carefully sorted and lightly crushed and gravity fed into 4 ton fermenters to preserve fruit character. Seven different cultured yeasts, one per lot, are used to create a silky texture and a broad palate of flavors. Fermentation was conducted slowly to prevent harsh tannins. After a 21 day fermentation, the free run wine was separated and the skins gently pressed. This blend is unique in that I don't always blend by varietal, I blend by vineyard. The Wahluke Slope Vineyard delivers the fruit and our Walla Walla vineyards add earth and tobacco flavors. Aged in 228 liter French and American