



Basel Cellars
ESTATE WINERY

2014

INSPIRED COLUMBIA VALLEY



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Every year we select the best Merlot and Cabernet Franc fruit and dedicate it to our Inspired blend. In 2014, Merlot from Wallula, Gamache and Double Canyon were chosen for this high-tier cuvee. The Cabernet Franc for this particular vintage was grown at Les Collines vineyard in the Walla Walla Valley. Our philosophy with this wine is to let the grapes speak for themselves and to respect the fruit and the distinctive terroir where they are grown. All fruit was hand picked, sorted and handled with extra care in the cellar. Extended maceration and slow, lengthy fermentations paved the way for 20 months of barrel aging in French and American oak. After this period, only the most expressive and complex barrels were chosen for this blend.

The fragrant nose shows beautiful notes of blueberry, rose petal, dark chocolate and cherry. You will also find pronounced hints of cedar, graphite, pencil shavings and leather. The mouth feel is “sweet”, supple and viscous, with ripe berry fruits woven together through layers of rich oak, generous tannin and fair acidity. The balance between fruit and oak makes the wine stand out even more, showing the elegance of Merlot and Cabernet Franc through the warm, soft oak tones. The ripe berry flavors will linger on the palate, with just enough oak impact in the back ground. This wine can definitely be enjoyed by itself but will hopefully inspire you to pair it with dishes such as roasted quail, veal chops with rosemary and garlic or sauteed calf’s liver. Enjoy!

TECHNICAL DATA

Vintage: 2014

Varieties: 74% Merlot, 26% Cabernet Franc

Vineyard: Wallula, Gamache, Double Canyon, Les Collines

Appellation: Columbia Valley

Oak: 85% French oak, 15% American oak, 85% New

Alcohol: 14.5%

pH: 3.91

T.A. 5.2g/L

R.S. 0.2g/L

Production: 293 cases