



2015 CLARET COLUMBIA VALLEY



This exciting red blend is one of my favorites here at Basel Cellars. This is truly a wine crafted to support a lifestyle and not so much for making statements! This versatile wine is comprised of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec. Specific vineyard blocks are represented in this cuvée, and we allow for varietal expression and character in these lots, by aging the wines in mostly neutral barrels. We prefer maturing in mainly French oak, and appreciate the minimal impact on the fruit, while preserving freshness.

The aroma will showcase expressive dark berry fruits, dried herbs, tobacco and hints of "flinty" minerality. Notes of eucalyptus leaf, black tea and olive are also present on the nose. These unique savory and earthy tones construct a definite accent in the aroma, creating depth in the wine's profile. Once aerated, the intriguing bouquet becomes floral with beautiful nuances of lavender and perfume. The initial palate is showcasing ripe and intense fruit, packed with complexity and character, finishing with balanced acidity. The approachable mouthfeel will linger throughout the finish where supple fruit, warm oak and soft tannins are woven together seamlessly. This Claret will pair well with wild game, shepherd's pie, charcuterie or a mild brie. Cheers!

TECHNICAL DATA

VINTAGE: 2015

VARIETIES: 30% Merlot, 30% Cab Franc,
17% Malbec, 23% Cab Sauv

VINEYARDS: Double Canyon, Double River, Gamache
Chelle Den Millie

APPELLATION: Columbia Valley

OAK: 88% French, 12% American, 3% New, 20 months

ALCOHOL: 14.5% **PH:** 3.87 **T.A.** 5.4g/L **R.S.** 0.2g/L

PRODUCTION: 1,884 cases

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