

À Bloc Malbec

2018 | COLUMBIA VALLEY



73% Champoux Vineyard Malbec Clone 4
17% Copeland Vineyard Malbec Clone 595
10% Mary Evelyn Vineyard Malbec Clone 4

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

pH: 3.7

Titrateable Acidity: 5.8 g/liter

Residual Sugar: <0.01 g/liter

Volatile Acidity: 0.64 g/liter

Alcohol: 14.7%

319 cases produced



Harvest and Winemaking

The 2018 growing season was influenced by slightly higher temperatures (3.6%) than the long-term average and significant air pollution from the forest fires in Canada and the United States. This led to decreased sunlight, delayed ripening and lengthened the harvest season. Gloriously, mid-September through late October had brilliant sunshine and little rain, creating a wonderful vintage for the wine grape harvest.

Copeland Vineyard is located at the far eastern end of the Rattlesnake Hills where we picked the Malbec on September 25, 2018. Located a few miles west of Copeland is Mary Evelyn Vineyard, where we picked Malbec on September 22, 2018. Champoux Vineyard is in the Horse Heaven Hills and was picked on October 3, 2018.

All the grapes were hand-picked and hand harvested. We destemmed 80% of the Malbec grapes and added the remaining 20% whole cluster. To concentrate the Malbec, we bled off 8% of the

juice immediately after destemming. The fermenting grapes were punched down twice daily and fermented to dryness prior to pressing. The three Malbecs were kept separate for 8 months whereafter the blend was created and returned to barrel. Overall, the À Bloc was aged in 100% French oak, 20% new for 22 months prior to bottling.

Tasting Notes

The hue is inky black with hints of purple. This Malbec has color to spare.

The aromas are full of blackberry compote and marionberry with hints of wet forest, mint, fresh oak, and caramel. The Malbec has flavors of freshly baked blackberry pie with hints of minerals, graphite, and fabulous acidity.

The texture is deep and dark but conveys a sense of lightness. The tannins are ripe and present but restrained and incorporated. This À Bloc Malbec is very tasty!

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