

Cabernet Franc

2018 | COLUMBIA VALLEY



100% CABERNET FRANC

47% Wallula Vineyard clone 327
45% Olsen Ranch Vineyard
8% Dineen Vineyard clone 214

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

pH: 3.68

Titrateable Acidity: 5.76 g/L

Residual Sugar: < 0.01 g/L

Volatile Acidity: 0.487 g/L

Alcohol: 14.1%

560 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. The corresponding 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.

Three vineyards and three clones comprise this Cabernet Franc. We planted clone 327 Cabernet Franc on a beautiful bench at Wallula Vineyard in 2014. Olsen Ranch was planted in 1991 and is located on the Eastern end of the Yakima Valley. On the Western end of the Yakima Valley resides Dineen Vineyard (planted 2004).

Dineen Vineyard Cabernet Franc was harvested on September 21, Olsen Ranch Vineyard Cabernet Franc on Oct. 12, and Wallula Vineyard on October 18. All the grapes were hand-picked, hand-sorted, and fermented by yeast specific for Cabernet Franc. The wine was aged in 100% French Oak (10% new and 90% used) for 15 months prior to bottling.

Tasting

Dark red hue. Intense aromas of red fruit, dust wet gravel, fennel seed, citrus rind, and vanilla. The Cabernet Franc has flavors of cherries, wet gravel, fresh oak, and dried fennel and sage. The mouth feel is rich, tight, and mouth watering with acidity. The tannins are excellently balanced and long. This is the best i Label Cabernet Franc we have made!

Thoughts on Cabernet Franc

Cabernet Franc's ancestral home is Bordeaux and the Loire Valley of France. It also excels in Washington State. Our sunny warm days help the grapes reach potential ripeness and the cool nights help the grapes retain acidity. Our vineyards produce Cabernet Franc with balance and elegance, and most importantly the wine still tastes like Cabernet Franc. Our hope is that other high profile wineries begin to produce excellent Cabernet Franc so more consumers will discover this wonderful wine.

Cabernet Franc is used primarily as a blending wine in Washington. Isenhower Cellars has crafted 100% Cabernet Franc red wines since 2002.

Isenhower

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