

# Malbec

2019 | YAKIMA VALLEY



44% Copeland Vineyard Côt clone  
44% Mary Evelyn Vinyard clone 4  
12% Champoux Vineyard clone 4

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

pH: 3.58

Titrateable Acidity: 5.5 g/L

Residual Sugar: 0.1 g/L

Alcohol: 14.2%

400 Cases produced



## Harvest and Winemaking

2019 was an interesting vintage. The summer was perfect with moderate heat, no temperature spikes and fortunately was cooler than normal. There were a few rain periods that slowed ripening in September. In mid-October Washington had three nights of freezing temperatures which defoliated the vines and stopped photosynthesis and grape ripening.

Copeland Vineyard is located at the far eastern end of the Rattlesnake Hills, and we picked the Malbec on October 4, 2019. Located a few miles west of Copeland is Mary Evelyn Vineyard, where we picked Malbec on September 27, 2019. Champoux Vineyard is in the Horse Heaven Hills and was picked on October 8, 2019.

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 10% 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 wine was aged in 100% French oak (19% new and 81% used) for 16 months prior to bottling.

## Tasting

Dark purple/red hue. Savory aromas of pie cherries, pomegranates, dried herbs, and forest undergrowth. On the palate, the Malbec tastes of dark red fruits, quince paste, wet stone with some cigar notes. The acidity is high and freshens the dark fruit character.

## Thoughts on Malbec

Malbec's ancestral home is Cahors in South-western France. Malbec is also one of the six allowed red Bordeaux varietals. Argentina has surpassed Cahors with 70% of the world's Malbec. Cahors leans towards the savory, tart, less ripe, and meaty side of Malbec.

Our goal for Malbec is to craft a riper style of Cahors. Washington is ideal for this style of Malbec because of our hot summers, cool nights, and compact growing season. Clone 4 is the standard Washington Malbec vine. From Copeland, the Côt malbec wine is darker, more reductive, and more intense.

## Screw Capsules

Screw-Caps are superior wine closures. No cork taint, controlled oxygen ingress, 100% consistent in flavor, and no tools necessary to enjoy. Wine under screw caps age better and last longer. Screw-Caps are aluminum and are 100% recyclable.

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