

Wallula Mourvèdre

2015 HORSE HEAVEN VALLEY



100% Mourvèdre Wallula Vineyard

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

pH: 3.95

TA: 5.9 g/liter

RS: < 0.2 g/liter

15% Alcohol

148 cases produced



Harvest and Winemaking

2015 was the hottest vintage in Washington history. The heat was relentless from June through October, but was fortunately consistent and not a continuous series of extremely hot spikes. Most of our vineyards were harvested 3 weeks earlier than usual and were very prolific in tons of grapes per acre harvested.

Wallula Vineyard Block 81 Mourvèdre was planted in 2001 on an extremely steep slope on a rocky outcropping above the Columbia River. The view from this location is unrivaled in Washington State.

All the grapes were hand harvested on September 24th, 2015. The grapes were hand sorted and destemmed, and fermented by yeasts native to Wallula Vineyard. The fermentation was punched down two times a day until pressing. Only the free wine was retained to create this amazing single vineyard Mourvèdre.

The Mourvèdre was aged in used French Oak barrels (225 liters) and was barrel stirred three times and aged sur lie prior to bottling on April 7th, 2017.

Tasting

The Mourvèdre has a dark crimson hue with nice clarity. The aromas are spicy with aromas of wild cherries and spices. There are notes of black peppercorn, wet granite, truffles, and earth.

A first taste of the wine is sweet on the entry into the mouth with a generous and rich character. The Wallula Vineyard Mourvèdre has a tightly wound texture that spins open to flavors of cherries and spices. The finish is long and pleasurable. Enjoy through 2027.

Thoughts on Mourvèdre

Mourvèdre is relatively rare in Washington although it is gaining momentum especially for use in the blending of GSM's. Mourvèdre is a very old grape and was possibly introduced to Spain by the Phoenicians who traveled into Catalonia around 500 BCE.

Mourvèdre is typically used as a blending wine to add color, tannin structure and black fruit flavors to a wine.

We have used Mourvèdre for blending in other wines, but love to showcase it as a varietal, especially when sourced from Wallula Vineyard which is one of the best sites for this unique grape.

Mourvèdre is called Monastrell in Spain, Mataro in Australia for the GSM blends, and as a single-varietal in France (Bandol).

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isenhowercellars info@isenhowercellars.com isenhowervino

IsenHower Cellars | 3471 Pranger Road | Walla Walla, Washington 99362

www.isenhowercellars.com