

Children's Reserve Cuvée

2014 | COLUMBIA VALLEY



67% Seven Hills Vineyard
Cabernet Sauvignon
18% Dionysus Vineyard Petit Verdot
15% Dineen Vineyard Cabernet Franc
Clone 214

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

pH: 3.85

TA: 5.3 g/liter

RS: 0.2 g/liter

14.7% alc. by vol.

92 cases produced

Harvest and Winemaking

2014 was an incredibly warm vintage. The summer was HOT and the warmth continued through the end of October. A freak cold snap hit Washington in early November causing significant bud damage in lower elevations in the Walla Walla Valley.

The goal of the Children's Reserve Cuvée is to create a uniquely Isenhower Cellars' Bordeaux Blend. 67% is Cabernet Sauvignon from Seven Hills Vineyard block 14. Seven Hills produces a profound and powerful Cabernet Sauvignon. 18% is Petit Verdot from Dionysus Vineyard. Petit Verdot adds a lavender note and provides mid palette intensity. The remaining 15% is Cabernet Franc clone 214 from Dineen Vineyard. The Cabernet Franc adds notes of cherries and smooths out the intensity of the Children's Reserve Cuvée.

The grapes were sorted by hand and destemmed to keep as many whole berries as possible. The native yeasts fermented the wine to dryness and only the free run wine was retained after pressing.

Denise and Brett Isenhower selected only the best barrels of each varietal to create the 2014 Children's Reserve Cuvée. The Children's Reserve Cuvée was aged in four new French oak barrels, two Boutes Grande Reserve, and two Sylvain Grande Reserve. The wine was blended in August 2016 and bottled in January 2017. Only 92 cases were produced. Artwork by Eliana Isenhower, age 8, Keegan Isenhower, age 10, and Olivia Isenhower, age 13.

Tasting

Dark red/black hue with a vibrant red rim. Fresh aromas of red currant, cherry, vanilla, and lavender with hints of blueberry, rosemary, and a slight earthy note. Entry into the mouth is very pleasing with an initial plush and smooth texture that builds in intensity.

Reminiscent of climbing a hill that gradually becomes steep, the mid palette is very fresh and intense. The 2014 Children's Reserve Cuvée has balance without over-the-top richness. It shows restraint while still carrying considerable weight. The finish has fine-grained tannins that pleasantly persist.

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