



CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2014

VARIETIES: 100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON
PRODUCTION: 243 CASES
ALC/VOL: 14.5%
OTHER: PH 3.73, TA: 6.0 G/L, RS: 2.8 G/L

VINEYARD

Our Cabernet Sauvignon grapes are planted on four blocks of our vineyards on the Osoyoos East Bench, but for this single varietal bottling only the Saunders Vineyard was used. That makes this is a single vineyard wine even though it is not indicated on the label. The Saunders Vineyard is a Class 1 vineyard with excellent southwest aspect and slope. The slope is perhaps the steepest of all the Osoyoos East Bench vineyards. The soil is a sandy loam with a shallow topsoil layer.

2014 was an excellent growing season in the South Okanagan and the quality of the fruit we harvested reflected that. All of our Cabernet Sauvignon grapes showed both physiological ripeness as well as wonderful flavour development. The Saunders vineyard, which is planted entirely with Cabernet Sauvignon, produced especially good fruit.

WINEMAKING

We followed our normal winemaking and vineyard practices: the grapes were hand harvested and then destemmed but not crushed. They were then pumped into our 5000L stainless steel fermenters where they underwent primary fermentation. We aimed to get the fermentation temperature to 30 degrees Celsius by its end which resulted in a fast fermentation. Three daily pumpovers ensure that the cap remains moist and maximizes the extraction of colour, flavour and tannins.

After the completion of the primary fermentation, the wine was allowed to remain on the skins for an “alcoholic soak” of about one week. The wine was then pressed off and pumped back into the tank to undergo malolactic fermentation. About 10% of the wine was racked to barrel at that time to undergo malolactic fermentation in new barrels. Once the wine in tank finished malolactic fermentation, it too was transferred to French oak barrels to complete its maturation.

TASTING NOTES

This Cabernet Sauvignon is a dry, medium to full bodied wine with an intense nose of blackcurrant, blackberry and a hint of a savoury edge. On the palate, the black fruit notes continue, along with leather, the classic cassis and just a hint of cola.

This is a well-balanced wine with integrated tannins and lively acidity that complements the ripe fruit profile.

Although this wine is drinking well now, we expect it will continue to benefit from aging under proper cellar conditions over the next five to seven years.

