

COLUMBIA·CREST Reserve

2012 WALTER CLORE PRIVATE RESERVE RED WINE

ABOUT THIS WINE

This wine is dedicated to the lifelong work of Washington state's pioneering viticultural researcher who shaped the state's wine industry and is recognized as the "Father of Washington Wine."

GROWING SEASON

- ▶ 2012 was a return to the "classic" Washington vintage and a much welcomed change from the cooler 2010 and 2011 vintages.
- ▶ Accelerated ripening due to the warm summer season was slowed by cooler temperatures in early fall. Overall the 2012 harvest was outstanding; the red wines are flavorful and rich with ripe tannins.

VINEYARDS

- ▶ Vineyard sites are located on the Wahluke Slope—for aromatics and complexity; the Cold Creek area—for flavor and fruitiness; and on the Horse Heaven Hills—which contributes texture and body.
- ▶ The balance between warm daytime temperatures and cooler evenings concentrated aromatics and enhanced complexity.
- ▶ The region's low rainfall yields concentrated fruit with depth and varietal expression.

VINIFICATION

- ▶ Hand-picked grapes from the finest vineyards in the Columbia Valley were crushed and cold-soaked on the skins for two days to extract soft tannins and intense color.
- ▶ Fermentation lasted 6-10 days on the skins and was followed by 4 weeks of malolactic fermentation in barrels. The wine was blended immediately after fermentation to integrate flavors prior to oak-aging.
- ▶ The traditional Bordeaux winemaking protocol included barrel aging in predominately new French oak for 26 months in our "Le Petit Chai"—a cellar honoring the traditional French techniques that are our inspiration.

APPELLATION ▶ COLUMBIA VALLEY

VINEYARDS ▶ SOURCED FROM THE BEVERLY, STONE TREE, ANDREWS & ROWELL, FOUR FEATHER AND WAUTOMA SPRINGS VINEYARDS

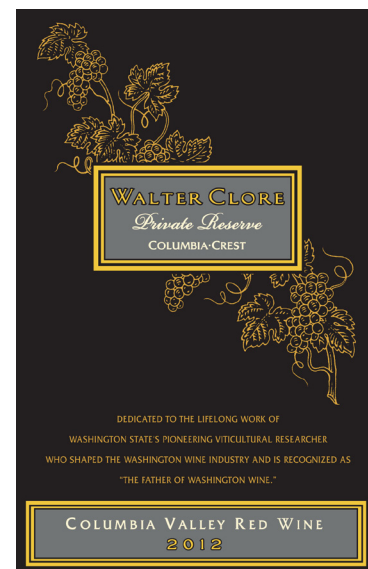
BLEND ▶ 80% MERLOT, 8% CABERNET, 6% CABERNET-FRANC, 6% MALBEC

ALCOHOL ▶ 14.8%

TOTAL ACIDITY ▶ 0.58g/100ML

PH ▶ 3.70

CASES CRAFTED ▶ 6,000



TASTING NOTES

"This classic Bordeaux-style wine opens with intense aromatics of spice and earthy notes. Balanced flavors of dark fruit, blackberry and black cherry lead to hints of cocoa on the palate. The supple tannins lead to a well-balanced finish. This wine is powerful, yet elegant."

Juan Muñoz Oca

JUAN MUÑOZ OCA ▶ COLUMBIA CREST ▶ WINEMAKER