hateau Michelle

DATE RESULTS DATE

Chateau^{Ste}Michelle

TASTING NOTES

"Our Syrah Rosé exhibits a beautiful pale pink color and reveals bright fruit and floral aromas. Flavors of red berries are followed by subtle, smoky notes. I enjoy this wine with Salmon or Calamari."

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David Rosenthal Winemaker

2012 SYRAH ROSÉ Columbia Valley Limited Release

VINTAGE

- 2012 was a return to the "classic" Washington vintage and a much welcomed change from the cooler 2010 and 2011 vintages.
- Bud break started slightly earlier than normal but cooler temperatures through the early summer delayed veraison slightly.
- A warming trend began in late July and dry conditions through mid-October were ideal for fruit ripening.

VINEYARDS

- Columbia Valley vineyards lie in the rain shadow of the Cascade Mountains and receive just 6-8 inches of rainfall annually.
- The region's sunny days and cool nights allow for gradual flavor development of the fruit.
- Well-drained soils at these sites enhance fruit character.
- A northerly latitude gives the Columbia Valley roughly two more hours of sunlight daily during the peak-growing season than California, increasing the region's ability to ripen fruit.

WINEMAKING

- Syrah grapes were harvested and picked slightly earlier than other reds for pure, fruit character.
- The fruit was left on the skins for eight hours to allow the grapes to extract just the right amount of cherry/berry color from the skins, leaving delicate, bright fruit flavors and aromas.
- 75% of the juice was fermented in stainless steel tanks, while the remaining 25% was aged sur lie in French oak barrels for 5 months to add a rich mouthfeel.

TECHNICAL DATA

Total acidity pH:	0.54G/100 ML 3-35
Alcohol:	13.5%
Cases Produced:	587
Food Pairings:	Salmon, chicken piccata, pizza