

# Chateau Ste Michelle

## CANOE RIDGE ESTATE

2014 MERLOT

HORSE HEAVEN HILLS

### TASTING NOTES

*"The Canoe Ridge Estate Merlot is an elegant expression of Washington Merlot. It offers dark cherry fruit character and dusty tannins. This is a perfect match with Italian food."*

*Ray McKee*

Raymon McKee, Red Winemaker

### VINTAGE

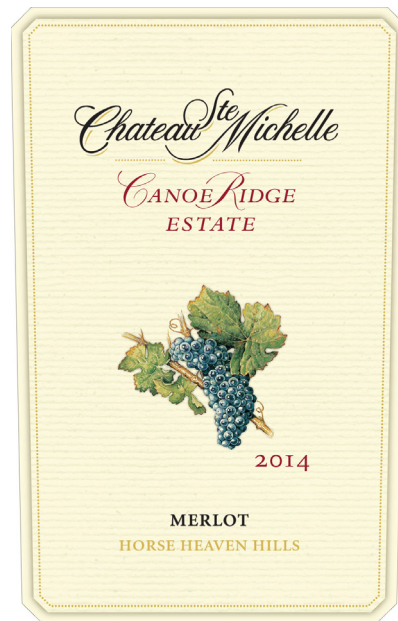
- 2014 in Eastern Washington was one of the warmest seasons in decades.
- The ripening period in September cooled to more typical weather for the region. In October temperatures rose again to one of the warmest October months on record.
- Overall 2014 was an ideal growing season; ripening was excellent for all varieties in all locations.

### VINEYARDS

- Planted in 1991, the vineyard at Canoe Ridge Estate lies on a steep south-facing wind-swept slope on the bank of the Columbia River in Washington's Horse Heaven Hills AVA.
- The site's proximity to the river protects it from temperature extremes, allowing uniform ripening and excellent color development.
- Chateau Ste. Michelle's Canoe Ridge Estate winery and vineyard are LIVE and Salmon Safe certified.

### WINE MAKING

- Grapes were sorted with a state-of-the art receiving and separation system that gently removes stems and leaves, allowing for more pure fruit expression.
- Daily gentle pumpovers during fermentation extract optimal flavor and color and minimize harsh tannins.
- Each fermentation lot is tasted daily to evaluate the evolution of the tannins, modify extraction techniques and find the right moment to drain the wine off of its skins.
- Aged for 16 months in French and American oak, 34% new.



### TECHNICAL DATA

Alcohol	14.5%
Total acidity	0.46g/100 ml
pH	3.86
Blend	98% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Sauvignon
Cases Produced	9,200

### FOOD PAIRINGS

Foods	lamb, pasta, beef, fowl
Herbs	basil, oregano, rosemary

