

Chateau Ste Michelle

COLD CREEK VINEYARD 2014 MERLOT COLUMBIA VALLEY

TASTING NOTES

“Cold Creek’s 45-year-old vines deliver a big, concentrated Merlot. This wine offers black fruit flavors with layers of complexity. This is our most intense Merlot with great ageability.”



Bob Bertheau, Winemaker

VINTAGE

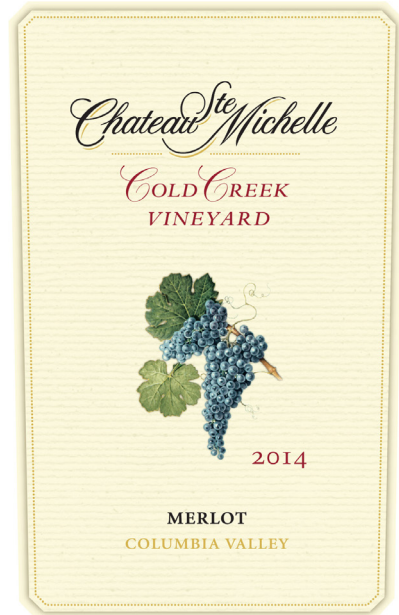
- 2014 in Eastern Washington was one of the warmest seasons in decades.
- The ripening period in September cooled to more typical weather for the region. In October temperatures rose again to one of the warmest October months on record.
- Overall 2014 was an ideal growing season; ripening was excellent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

VINEYARDS

- Planted in 1972, Cold Creek Vineyard is one of Washington’s oldest and most acclaimed vineyards.
- Cold Creek Vineyard enjoys one of the longest and warmest growing seasons in the Columbia Valley.
- Low yielding old vines produce small clusters and small berries, resulting in intense varietal flavors and deep color.
- Cold Creek vineyard is 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.
- Every 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 22 months in American oak, 49% new.



TECHNICAL DATA

Alcohol	14.5%
TA	0.51 g/100 ml
pH	3.83
Blend	88% Cold Creek Merlot, 12% Cold Creek Cabernet Sauvignon
Cases Produced	1,787

FOOD PAIRINGS

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

