



Chateau Ste. Michelle

# IMPETUS

2014 RED WINE | COLUMBIA VALLEY



## TASTING NOTES

"Building on our legacy as Washington state's founding winery, we are excited to introduce Impetus, a visionary wine showcasing three varieties that are stellar in our growing region, but not traditionally blended together. This unique combination provides a beautiful marriage of structure, fruit and complexity that represents the pinnacle of Washington state grape growing and winemaking."

*Bob Bertheau*

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

- Sourced from top vineyards in Washington's Horse Heaven Hills, Red Mountain, Columbia Valley, Wahluke Slope, Walla Walla Valley and Rattlesnake Hills AVAs.
- Cabernet from our 45-year old Cold Creek vineyard contributes weight and subtle sweetness.
- Malbec from our Canoe Ridge Estate vineyard in the Horse Heaven Hills provides elegance, ripeness and soft tannins.
- Syrah adds soft, jammy berry fruit flavors with a touch of chocolate and white pepper notes.

## WINEMAKING

- Fermented in small lots for maximum flexibility during blending.
- Daily gentle pumpovers during fermentation help extract optimal flavor and color.
- 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 24 months in 100% new French oak.

## TECHNICAL DATA

Alcohol	14.8%
TA	0.53g/100 ml
pH	3.88
Blend	57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Syrah, 9% Malbec
Cases Produced	307