

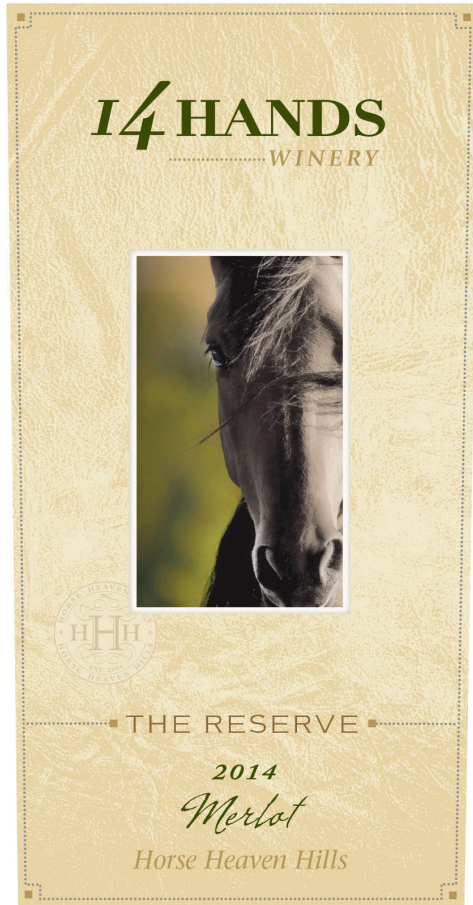
I4 HANDS

.....WINERY

THE RESERVE

2014 Merlot

Horse Heaven Hills



THE VINTAGE:

- After warmer than average 2012 and 2013 vintages, 2014 in Eastern Washington was one of the warmest seasons in decades with favorable temperature conditions extending into fall.
- Overall, 2014 was a pleasant growing season; ripening was excellent for all varieties in all locations.

WINEMAKING:

- 100% of the fruit was sourced from very warm sites in the heart of the Horse Heaven Hills.
- The wine aged for over 17 months in 53% new oak barrels, both American and French. Malolactic fermentation occurred in barrel.
- Syrah was blended in to soften the mouthfeel and enhance fruit character.
- Fruit from each vineyard block was fermented and aged separately with blending occurring just weeks before bottling.

RECOMMENDED FOOD PAIRINGS:

Seared Sirloin Strip, Braised Lamb Shank, Grilled Salmon with Mushrooms

TECHNICAL DATA:

BLEND: 83% Merlot, 17% Syrah

APPELLATION: Horse Heaven Hills

ALCOHOL: 14.5%

TOTAL ACIDITY: 0.52 g/100 ml

PH: 3.73

CASES CRAFTED: 648

TASTING NOTES:

"This bold Merlot begins with heady aromas of dark fruits, showing subtle undertones of blueberries, black currants and graphite. Flavors of boysenberry syrup and blackberry compote lend a sweet impression while chewy tannins fill the mouth and support a lengthy, velvety finish."

- Keith Kenison, Winemaker