

2015 RESERVE MALBEC

ANDREWS & ROWELL VINEYARD | HORSE HEAVEN HILLS

ABOUT THIS WINE

This Reserve Malbec is part of a small selection of limited edition Reserve vineyard-designated wines from Columbia Crest. Malbec is often associated with Argentina, but is actually native to France. Although limited in acreage, it grows extremely well in Washington State.

GROWING SEASON

- ▶ The 2015 vintage was one of the warmest growing seasons on record in Washington.
- ▶ Warm temperatures continued through the spring and summer, moderating slightly into fall and extending an early harvest.
- ▶ Overall, 2015 saw very favorable growing conditions, producing optimal ripening across varieties and yielding outstanding wines throughout the region.

VINEYARDS

- ▶ The Andrews & Rowell vineyards are located in Eastern Washington in the heart of the Horse Heaven Hills appellation. This region is mostly dry with less precipitation due to the rain shadow effect from the surrounding Cascade Mountain range.
- ▶ The terrain consists of south-facing slopes that provide excellent sun exposure for grape ripening, and protection from cold airflow during the winter months.
- ▶ Strong wind patterns in the Horse Heaven Hills reduce canopy size and density and contribute to even ripening by moderating temperature extremes.

VINIFICATION

- ▶ Fruit was handpicked at the peak of ripeness, destemmed, sorted and placed into small open-top fermenters uncrushed.
- ▶ After fermentation, the juice was placed into 30% new French and 10% new American oak barrels for malolactic fermentation.
- ▶ Lots were kept separate during the 19 months of aging with blending occurring just prior to bottling.

APPELLATION ▶ HORSE HEAVEN HILLS

VINEYARD ▶ ANDREWS & ROWELL VINEYARD, BLOCKS 12 AND 14

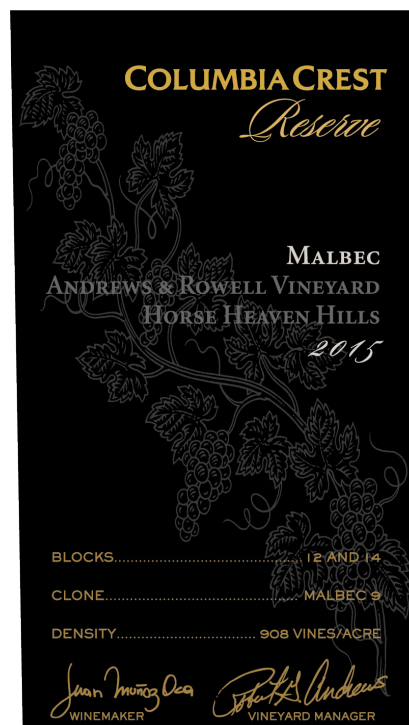
BLEND ▶ 100% MALBEC

ALCOHOL ▶ 15.5%

TOTAL ACIDITY ▶ 0.59 g/100 mL

PH ▶ 3.77

CASES CRAFTED ▶ 600



TASTING NOTES

"This Malbec is elegantly framed with a dense concentration of sweet aromatics and bold blackberry and currant notes. The palate highlights spicy top notes with a lush lengthy finish."

Juan Muñoz Oca

JUAN MUÑOZ OCA ▶ COLUMBIA CREST ▶ WINEMAKER