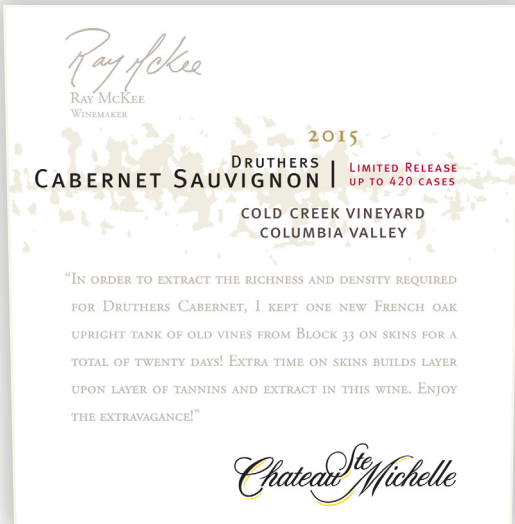


Chateau Ste Michelle

2015 DRUTHERS CABERNET SAUVIGNON

COLD CREEK VINEYARD, COLUMBIA VALLEY

LIMITED RELEASE



WINEMAKER'S NOTES

"VINTAGE 2015 PROVIDED ME WITH AMAZING CABERNET FROM COLD CREEK, WITH WHICH TO PRODUCE DRUTHERS CABERNET. DENSE, RIPE TANNINS WERE ACCENTUATED BY NICE GRIP FROM THE FIRM ACID STRUCTURE, AND RESULTED IN A VERY RICH, FULL EXPRESSION. STILL EVERYTHING YOU LOOK FOR IN DRUTHERS – DECADENCE, RICH AND RIPE FRUIT, FULL TASTY MOUTHFEEL AND ALMOST (BUT NOT QUITE) TOO MUCH OF A GREAT CAB! I ENJOY THIS WINE WITH NEW YORK STRIP AND RIBEYE STEAKS, BUT GO AHEAD AND PLAY AROUND WITH THE FOOD PAIRINGS, AND SEE WHAT MAGIC CAN HAPPEN WHEN YOU DISOBEY THE NORM; AFTER ALL, THIS WINE CAME ABOUT WHEN WE DECIDED TO MAKE A MASSIVE EXTRACTED CAB THAT STEPPED OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES, FINDING OUR OWN DRUTHERS!"

Ray McKee

RAY MCKEE  
WINEMAKER

VINTAGE

- 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

- Planted in 1973, the south-facing Cold Creek Vineyard is a warm, dry site with high heat accumulation.
- The low yielding old vines produce small clusters and small berries, resulting in intense varietal flavors and deep color.
- Cold Creek typically is one of the earliest vineyards in the region to ripen.
- Cold Creek vineyard is LIVE and Salmon Safe certified.

WINEMAKING

- Ripe grapes were destemmed and sorted with a cutting-edge grape receiving and sorting system designed to gently remove any green material from the grapes, allowing for pure varietal expression and soft mouthfeel.
- Fermented in a 3 ton capacity New French Oak Upright tank.
- Extended maceration augmented the tannin extraction and richness of this wine.
- Aged for 23 months in 100% New French oak, Dargaud & Jaegle Cabernet selection barrels.

TECHNICAL DATA

TOTAL ACIDITY	0.54
pH	3.82
BLEND	98% COLD CREEK VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 2% STONE TREE MERLOT
ALCOHOL	15.1 %
CASES PRODUCED	420