



Chateau Ste. Michelle

IMPETUS

2015 RED WINE | COLUMBIA VALLEY



TASTING NOTES

"Impetus is our 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

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

VINEYARDS

- Sourced from top vineyards in Washington's Horse Heaven Hills, Red Mountain, and Columbia Valley AVAs, including our Cold Creek and Canoe Ridge Estate vineyards.
- 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	0.57 g/100 ml
pH	3.89
Blend	55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Malbec, 21% Syrah
Cases Produced	860