



Chateau Ste. Michelle

# IMPETUS

2016 RED WINE | COLUMBIA VALLEY

## TASTING NOTES

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

*Bob Bertheau*

Bob Bertheau, Winemaker

## VINTAGE

- The 2016 vintage experienced the best of both worlds with a hot spring and early summer, but also a cool fall season.
- Cooler temperatures in August and September slowed down ripening and resulted in longer hang time for the grapes, and the longest harvest on record in Washington State (August 15-November 15).
- Overall, 2016 saw very favorable growing conditions, producing wines with ripeness and elegance.

## 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 22 months in 58% new French oak and 6% new American oak.



## TECHNICAL DATA

Alcohol	14.9%
TA	0.58 g/100 ml
pH	3.78
Blend	54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Malbec, 19% Syrah
Cases Produced	472