Chateau Michelle



CABERNET FRANC

COLUMBIA VALLEY

LIMITED RELEASE UP TO 1240 TOTAL CASES

BRIAN-MACKEY WINEMAKER Cabernet Franc tends to make enigmatic and seductively complex wines - just like this one. I brought together wines from multiple vineyards for the maximum intricacy. Delicate candy like aromas like violets jump out but hiding just beneath is an earthy underbelly of tapenade and dark berries. An initial freshness gives way to a surprising richness and a powdery finish.

TA: 0.53 g/100 mL

PH: 3.97

ALCOHOL: 14.8%

BLEND: 88% Cabernet Franc, 12% Cabernet Sauvignon

CASE PRODUCTION:

1240

COLUMBIA VALLEY

2021 Limited Release Cabernet Franc

VINTAGE NOTES

- 2021 was a very warm growing season which resulted in intensely concentrated flavors in the wines.
- Our typical cool nights during harvest helped us retain the wonderful natural acidity Washington is known for.
- The season produced red wines dark in color and dense in concentration and white wines with varietal character and bright vibrancy.

VINEYARD NOTES

- Columbia Valley vineyards lie in the rain shadow of the Cascade Mountains and receive just 6-8 inches of rainfall annually.
- Warm, sunny days and cool evenings create ideal conditions for aroma and flavor development in the ripening grapes.
- A northerly latitude gives the Columbia Valley nearly two more hours of sunlight daily during the peak-growing season than California.

WINEMAKING NOTES

- Gentle pumpovers were used to extract optimal flavor and color and minimize harsh tannins.
- Each individual fermentation tank is tasted daily to evaluate the development of the tannins and structure.
- Aged for 22 months in 40% New French oak and 60% Neutral French oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES

Wines from multiple vineyards were brought together for maximum intricacy. Some Cabernet was layered in to round out the palate. Delicate candy-like and floral aromas jump out at first, but hiding just beneath is an earthy underbelly of tapenade and dark berries. An initial freshness gives way to a rich and a powdery finish.