



Wine Tech Notes

2013 Syrah

CIEL DU CHEVAL VINEYARD – RED MOUNTAIN

150 cases produced • 13.4% Alc by Vol.

Tasting Notes

Grace and complexity prevail over this intriguing wine. Sumptuous, mouthwatering aromas of cherry, clove and allspice unfold in your glass. Purity of fruit shines through with flavors of fresh picked berries, and ripe olives. This wine will age graciously for many years.



Harvest Notes

- Vineyard:** Ciel du Cheval
- Appellation:** Red Mountain
- Varietal:** 100% Syrah

Vineyards

The forces that helped form **Ciel du Cheval**, and the Red Mountain geology in general, were truly gigantic. The deep bedrock of most of the Columbia Basin is basalt, formed from the massive lava outflows caused by intense volcanic activity. On top of the basalt lie layers of sediment deposited by repeated ancient floods – the largest floods ever recorded. On top of the sediment are layers of sand and silt from eons of erosion and weathering. The high alkalinity and high calcium carbonate content produce wines of incredible structure and longevity.

Jim Holmes, a pioneering grower on Red Mountain, planted Ciel du Cheval vineyard in the late 1970's. His vineyard is known for producing the most elegant wines from Red Mountain.

Vinification

The fruit was hand harvested and de-stemmed with no crushing. It was then cold soaked for two days followed by native fermentation in small open top fermenters with manual pigeage. Pressing occurred just before dryness and all wine was barreled in a blend of 3–4 year old French oak. This bottling contains 100% free run juice. A polish filtration preceded bottling. Barrel time of 16 months.