

90PTS &
YEAR'S BEST U.S. CAB
Wine & Spirits

NORTH BY NORTHWEST

2015

CABERNET SAUVIGNON WALLA WALLA VALLEY

North by Northwest was founded in 2005 by the King family with the vision to handcraft varietally pure wines from the finest vineyards in Walla Walla Valley and Columbia Valley AVAs, which straddle the border of Washington and Oregon. We partner with like-minded vineyard owners, with an eye on sustainable viticultural practices. Our guiding principle is simple: produce a quality wine, for wine lovers.

TASTING NOTES

Notes of blackberry, cassis, anise and tea grace the nose along with cigar box, leather, graphite and bramble. After a rich and robust entrance, the wine shows a full-bodied firmness with chewy tannins on the mid-palate. A long finish is balanced and satisfying, with a trace of dusty tannins to linger.

WINEMAKING PROCESS

The fruit was cold soaked, punched down and pumped over throughout fermentation. Delestage, a process to oxygenate or aerate the wine and soften the tannins, was performed midway through fermentation. After fermentation, extended maceration gave the wine more contact with skins and seeds to increase the concentration of color, flavor and tannins. Aged 22 months in 36% new French oak.

VINTAGE NOTES

The growing season had an early warm and dry start and stayed particularly warm throughout the summer. Due to an early spring and hot summer, harvest was about two weeks early. Temperatures finally cooled down shortly before harvest and the weather remained mild and dry throughout, without a single challenging weather event. This particular weather pattern was ideal to reach a perfect physiological ripeness by harvest, with all the necessary hang time to ripen the flavors and polish the tannins.

Varietals: Cabernet Sauvignon (86%); Merlot (14%)

Vineyards: Seven Hills (66%); Les Collines (14%); Heather Hill (12%); Weinbau (7%), Other Vineyards (1%)

AVA: Walla Walla Valley

Alcohol: 13.0%

