

NEXT RED BLEND COLUMBIA VALLEY

2022

COLUMBIA VALLEY RED BLEND

THE HEAVENS

The Columbia Valley AVA lies in the Columbia Plateau, or Columbia Basin, found primarily in eastern Washington State with a small section crossing into Oregon. Stretching between the 46th and 47th parallels, the Columbia Valley is in line with the famed French wine growing regions of Bordeaux and Burgundy. The 2022 growing season began with a cool, wet winter that soaked the soil, followed by a similar spring. Early varieties started to bud in late March but a freak blizzard in April stalled bud break for two to three weeks. A short, hot summer led into unusually warm weather in late September.

THE EARTH

The soils found in Columbia Valley vineyards are defined by the great Missoula floods, a series of cataclysmic floods that swept through the Columbia Gorge more than 10,000 years ago. Most vineyards lie below the floodwater with soils of loess overlying gravel and bedrock formed by sediment, providing a diversity of soil types that are well drained and ideal for growing wine grapes.

THE BOUNTY

A beautiful deep red with ruby hues in the glass, the wine boasts a nose of dark fruit – blueberry, plum and blackberry – along with rose, licorice, cola, cocoa, vanilla, coconut and clove. Each aroma stands apart at first before coming together in pleasing balance. The first taste of the wine is flavorful and fruity, showing complementary silky tannins and smooth acidity. The wine is robust and vigorous, with notes of barrel toast and fruity sweetness coming through on the finish. Whole clusters were destemmed and cold soaked for 48 hours with daily pump overs. Fermentation took place in stainless steel open top tanks with daily punch downs, followed by délestage, also called rack and return, and extended maceration. Aged 34 months in French oak, 36% new.

Varietals: 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc

Vineyards: Weinbau (32%), Coyote Canyon (26%), Quintessence (19%), Bacchus (12%), Cottonwood (11%)

AVA: Columbia Valley

Alcohol: 14.0%

