

GILBERT CELLARS

FINE WINES CRAFTED IN YAKIMA, WASHINGTON



Columbia Valley / Reserve No. 2 *Two Thousand and Twelve*

VINEYARD: 75% RIVER RIDGE, 25% DOC STEWART

ASSEMBLAGE: 50% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 25% MERLOT, 25% PETIT VERDOT

WINEMAKER : JUSTIN NEUFELD

PRODUCTION: 98 CASES

AGING: IN BARREL FOR 30 MONTHS, 100% NEW FRENCH OAK

ALCOHOL- 14.7% **TA-** 6.6 G/L **L PH-** 3.71

BOTTLING: APRIL 30, 2015

ESTIMATED RELEASE: SPRING/SUMMER 2016

TASTING NOTES: The nose is dominated by blackberry, bing cherry and pomegranate like fruits. In the background there is anise, mint and bitter dark chocolate aromas. The palate is polished and round with great forward and mid palate volume. The finish is lengthened by the wines ever present and balanced acidity .

VINIFICATION: Fruit for this blend was destemmed, but not crushed, into 1 ton fermentation bins. The must contained approximately 75% whole berries. The must had an average pre fermentation maceration of about 96 hours at 51F. During fermentation, extraction was achieved via hand punchdowns and pump over with macro aeration, several times daily. The wine fermented dry on the skins and was immediately pressed and transferred to barrel.

Blending: This wine is our attempt to create the best wine we can from our cellar. We took our top lots and went thru rigorous blending trials to arrive at this particular composition. The Cabernet created the foundation for the blend contributing a wonderful tannic spine throughout the palate and complex aromatics. The Merlot fleshed out the palate giving it greater breadth and offered up a strong note of bing cherry. The Petit Verdot lifted the natural acidity of the wine which helps to enhance the perception of tannin on the palate and offered up notes of fennel and crushed rock. The separate lots were blended in March, 2014 giving the blend ample time to have its constituent parts fuse and meld in barrel.

BACK LABEL: The rugged summit of Gilbert Peak is as mighty as our commitment to the agricultural lands of Washington State. Five generations of family farming in the Yakima Valley have inspired us to share the unique wines that are born of this place.