

L'Ecole

No 41

2014 Ferguson Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley

FERGUSON VINEYARD

Ferguson Vineyard is a stunning, high elevation site overlooking a panoramic view of the Walla Walla Valley. With 18 acres planted, vines are rooted in fractured basalt rock from 15-million-year-old ancient lava flows overlaid with a thin layer of wind-blown, glacial loess. The vineyard is Certified Sustainable and Salmon Safe.

VINTAGE

- The 2014 vintage was a repeat of the warm 2013 vintage with heat units nearly identical, and no unusual winter frost, pest, or disease pressure.
- Bud break was early, followed by a warm spring and relatively early bloom. Fruit set was near ideal. Slowing tactics were implemented such as delayed thinning and leafing to delay veraison and ultimately harvest.
- Temperatures cooled mid-August stretching out the hang-time to complete veraison. Berry size and berry count per cluster were slightly up resulting in healthy crop yields.
- Modest fall day-time temperatures and cool nights resulted in a rich and vibrant structure with bold color development. Overall warmer conditions delivered ample sugars and surprisingly strong acids, particularly in our higher elevation sites.

WINEMAKING

- Nearly 30 years of meticulous vineyard management and winemaking experience are fundamental to the quality of our wines and reputation for excellence. We are engaged in growing and making 100% of our wines.
- Each block was hand harvested ripe at 2.5 tons per acre and gently crushed into 1 ½ ton open-topped stainless steel fermenters.
- Gentle handling of the fruit through hand punch downs and gravity assisted movements were utilized throughout the entire winemaking process.
- A two week maceration on the skins allowed us to build structure and backbone.
- The wine was cleanly racked to 100% small French oak barrels, 40% new, with four rackings over 22 months.

TASTING NOTES

Ferguson's signature flavor profile is distinctly influenced by its volcanic basalt soil. This wine offers complex aromas of dark fruit, espresso grounds, savory herbs and dried roses underpinned by iron and graphite minerality. Rich stone-laced tannins with intricate layers in the mid-palate are balanced with natural acidity leading to a robust powerful finish.

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WALLA WALLA VALLEY

CABERNET SAUVIGNON
FERGUSON VINEYARD

2014 ESTATE GROWN

HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	OCTOBER 3, 2014
Average tons/acre	2.1
Average Brix	26.1
Average pH	3.14
Average Acidity	7.5 g/L

WINE DATA

Composition	100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON
pH	3.55
Total Acidity	5.4 g/L
Alcohol	14.5%
Bottling Date	JULY 15, 2016
Release Date	MARCH 2019
Case Production	320