



2016 READERS CABERNET SAUVIGNON

COLUMBIA VALLEY A.V.A.

A stunning Cabernet from Washington's oldest and most revered vineyards. Our 2015 Readers Cabernet was chosen by the *Wine Spectator* as one of its Top 100 Most Exciting Wines in 2018. With the amazing quality we put into this vintage, this wine will follow in the 2015's footsteps with bigger boots on! The superior blocks of Conner Lee Vineyard's old vines from '87 and '88 blocks, Dionysus Vineyards' old block 18, and Elephant Mountain Vineyards' high elevation site each developed this powerful wine. Fragrant blackberries, mocha and mineral complexity wrapped in lengthy silky tannins, all built into this fantastic old vine Cabernet's delicious style.

VINTAGE

Our best generous harvest, 2016 fruit from our vineyards was ripe and intense and yielded record-breaking color and suave tannins. This vintage yielded a volume and weight that matched our house style of rich and smooth age-worthy reds. Spring broke buds and flowered early, like 2015. Summer temperatures were hotter than average with many July and August days over 100°F. Verasion was early in August under good conditions, together hallmarks of great vintages. Our familiar old vine blocks had fruit shaded with healthy canopies balancing acidity and sugar ripeness while keeping fruit from sunburn. September was ideally warm and dry, record-breaking in total heat units, and cool picking weather was perfect.

WINEMAKING

These Cabernets were both handpicked and machine harvested in the mornings of September 25–October 8. We machine harvested, sorted and destemmed in the cool morning into small fermenters for hand mixing. These powerful wines fermented quickly and fermentation completed in barrels and puncheons. We aged on lees reductively developing savory tones complimentary to the powerful fruit. After 26 months, we selected the final blend. We then filtered for purity and aging stability. With the addition of choice Syrah for aromatic lift, the blend describes Cabernet at its most gorgeous vintage expression. This rich wine will age easily for decade or two and is enjoyable with a host of savory, full-flavored foods throughout the range of seasons.

APPELLATIONS & VINEYARDS

Columbia Valley 95%	65% Conner Lee 30% Dionysus
Yakima Valley 5%	5% Elephant Mountain

FINAL BLEND

82% Cabernet Sauvignon
18% Syrah

AGING

Aged 26 months in
100% French Oak
barrels, 30% new

CASES PRODUCED 5,670 12-pack cases/750mL

TECHNICAL DATA Bottled: Spring 2019 • Alcohol: 14.9% by volume • pH: 3.8 • TA: 5.5 • RS: 2g/L

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