



2018 | READERS CABERNET SAUVIGNON COLUMBIA VALLEY A.V.A.

The deep red color impresses and leads into the rich, brooding, ripe-fruit Cabernet Sauvignon nose. With classic French oak charm, the nose leads into a dense round and rich palate. Big flavors of blackberries and blueberries with creamy texture are balanced by the large French oak puncheons employed for aging. The generous fruit and oak tones hold your attention throughout the long finish. Largely sourced from the old blocks of Conner Lee and Dionysus Vineyards, this wine is filled with the classic power and grace we have produced for over 30 years. The long season which was cool into October harvest offered a full ripeness with fresh acids. The tannic texture is just right, allowing the wine to be paired with rich foods now or settle into the cellar for several years for further development.

VINTAGE

In 2018 we received a generous harvest of fruit. The grapes were perfectly ripe and yielded intense color and suave tannins. This vintage yielded a volume and weight that matched our house style of rich and smooth age-worthy reds. We saw bud break and flowering early. Summer temperatures were hotter than average, with ten 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 ideal warm and dry. October's cool temperature picking weather was perfect.

WINEMAKING

Our Readers blend of Cabernets were harvested by hand as well as by Pellanc Selectiv during the second week of October. The various lots were placed in mostly small two-ton fermenters for gentle handling and temperature control. These powerful wines fermented quickly with fermentation completed in barrels and puncheons. We aged on lees reductively, developing savory tones complementary to the powerful fruit. After 20 months, we selected the final blend. We then filtered for purity and aging stability. With the addition of choice Syrah and Malbec 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 76%	Conner Lee Dionysus
Yakima Valley 24%	Elephant Mountain Diamond Back Ridge

FINAL BLEND

76%	Cabernet Sauvignon
16%	Syrah
8%	Malbec

AGING

100%	French Oak
10%	New French Oak
30%	Puncheon Barrels
70%	Traditional Bordeaux Barrels

CASES PRODUCED 4,000 12-pack cases/750mL

TECHNICAL DATA Bottled: Spring 2020 • Alcohol: 14.9% by volume • pH: 3.9 • TA: 5.5g/L

BOOKWALTER WINERY • FICTON @ J. BOOKWALTER RESTAURANT 894 TULIP LN, RICHLAND WA • 509.627.5000
J. BOOKWALTER TASTING STUDIO 14810 NE 145TH ST, BLDG B, WOODINVILLE WA • 425.488.1983

WWW.BOOKWALTERWINES.COM