



2009 Merlot Columbia Valley

Daven Lore
winery

CASES PRODUCED: 58

WINEMAKER NOTES

Why is Washington Merlot so good? Perhaps the soft, easy drinking structure, coupled with the intense and welcoming blackberry and blueberry aromas. Washington Merlot's crimson red color marries with oak without being dominated by it. We all love comfort food and this is comfort wine. Daven Lore 2009 will go down in my mind as one of the best. It's bold, it's dark, with great vanilla, licorice and cinnamon notes. Blackberry, black current and blueberry pie filling coat the glass and give a heady sensation. Wow! I love this growing region. Here's to Washington Merlot!

Gord Taylor, Winemaker

VINEYARDS

Location: ALDER RIDGE VINEYARD, HORSE HEAVEN HILLS
Block 8 Merlot, Block 10 Cabernet Sauvignon

Date Planted: 1998 **Soil:** Warden Fine Sandy Loam

Location: DOUBLE CANYON VINEYARD, HORSE HEAVEN HILLS
Planted: 2007 **Slope:** 0-2% and 2-5%

Soil: Sagehill silt loam. Fine sandy loam. This soil is very deep and well drained. It formed in lacustrine sediments with a mantle of loess on terraces.

WINEMAKING

MERLOT • ALDER RIDGE VINEYARD

Harvested by Hand: September 16 2009

Brix: 25.1 **pH:** 3.55

Yeast: Lallemmand D-21

Fermentation: 9 days **Maximum temperature:** 84°F

CABERNET SAUVIGNON • ALDER RIDGE VINEYARD

Harvested by Hand: October 6 2009

Brix: 26.5 **pH:** 3.72

Yeast: Premier Cuvee

Fermentation: 8 days **Maximum temperature:** 79°F

PETIT VERDOT • DOUBLE CANYON VINEYARDS

Harvested by Hand: October 9 2009

Brix: 24.4 **pH:** 3.51

Yeast: ICV D-21

Fermentation: 9 days **Maximum temperature:** 81°F

MERLOT

COLUMBIA VALLEY

Wine Lore: When it comes to red wine grape harvest, Merlot is one of the first in. A marvelous grape to kick off the season, we enjoy the beginning of crush with some of the first autumn fruit. We stem and crush these little black berries and then watch with anticipation as the first wine of the season develops, leading the pack for each new vintage.



TECHNICAL DATA

Alcohol: 14.5%

Blend:

Alder Ridge:

Merlot 80%

Cabernet Sauvignon 10%

Double Canyon Vineyards:

Petit Verdot 10%

Cases produced: 85

Bottled: September 4 2011

Potential Aging: 0-5 years

FOOD PAIRINGS

Steaks

Prime rib roast

Hearty stews

