



2012 Cappella

Columbia Valley AVA | 200 Cases Produced

Vineyards

Old Stones and Canoe Ridge Vineyards.

A 15 acre property, Old Stones is one of the oldest vineyards planted “On the Rocks” in Milton Freewater. Originally acquired as an apple and plum orchard, Old Stones is located along an ancient river bed covered with massive basalt cobblestones, similar to the profile of vineyards found in the Châteauneuf-du-Pape region of Southern France. These cobblestones go very deep into the soil and retain heat during the day to then radiate that heat back to the vines during the cooler evening hours. This rocky section of the AVA is producing some of the most distinct and sought after wines in the Walla Walla Valley, especially for Syrah and Cabernet Franc. Given the depth and complexity of this fruit, and its distinct aromatics and flavors, this Syrah is certainly destined for a single vineyard bottling in the future.

Canoe Ridge is located on the ridgeline high above the Columbia River Gorge at the south end of the Columbia Valley appellation. This distinctive microclimate is ideally suited for growing Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Being situated on a wide expanse of the Columbia River, temperatures are more moderate here in the summer and winter than other parts of the Columbia Valley appellation. The sandy loam soils on Canoe Ridge range in depth from 18 inches to five feet, which allow vine roots to drill deep for nutrients while providing excellent drainage.

Winemaking

Our homage to the great Cheval Blanc- this is our most elegant Bordeaux blend. A lovely marriage of Cabernet Franc from ‘The Rocks District of Milton Freewater’ and Merlot from the Horse Heaven Hills provides perfect bright red fruit component with racy tannins. While approachable now, this one will sneak up on you. Age worthy.

Tasting Notes

57% Cabernet Franc, 43% Merlot. Cigar and strawberries. Hint of peach, slate, pencil shavings and white pepper. Faint roasted plum and freshly roasted meat. Huckleberry and vanilla rich pie crust. Sticks and stones but unbreakably beautiful.