

DESERT WIND

2009 Malbec Wahluke Slope, WA

Cases produced:	160
Vineyard:	Desert Wind Vineyard
Appellation:	Wahluke Slope, WA
Harvested:	October 7, 2009
Fermentation:	Open top fermentation with three punch-downs per day
Barrel Regime:	Barrel aged for twenty months in American oak
Blend:	97% Malbec, 2% Merlot, 1% Barbera
Final #s:	Alcohol 14.5% • TA 0.64 g/100ml pH 3.59 • RS 0.05 g /100ml
Release Date:	November 2011
UPC:	768154231328

Winemaker's Notes

Traditionally used as a blending grape in Bordeaux, Malbec has emerged as a popular varietal in the New World due to its intense fruit aromas and dark, inky color. The Desert Wind Malbec has intense blueberry and violet aromas with flavors of boysenberry on the palate. This robust wine pairs well with hearty foods and is best consumed after 2012.

Vineyard

The Wahluke Slope is located in Eastern Washington's Columbia Valley. The site is considered Zone 3, the hottest in the region. Our 480-acre vineyard is a southern facing block with a two percent slope and shallow, rocky soil. The vines are irrigated with an underground drip system; double catch wires are used to increase air circulation during the growing season. Leaf pulling and cluster thinning are important steps in aiding the ripening of the grapes.

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