

2015 PirouetteColumbia Valley, Red Wine

Agustin Huneeus, Sr. & Philippe Melka

Philippe Melka and Agustin Huneeus, Sr. teamed to combine the traditions of old world winemaking, the advancements of new world technology, and small lots from Washington State's finest vineyards to craft this enticing red blend.

Tasting Notes: The deeply colored 2015 Pirouette is a vibrant, expressive wine offering intense aromatics and focused flavors of blackberry, dark chocolate, ripe cherry and hints of toasted spice. Its generous richness, volume and broad, dusty tannins are woven together with a refined backbone that provides layers of delicious complexity across an extended finish.

Vintage: A warm, dry spring arrived early in 2015 and was followed by a hot summer. Careful canopy management throughout the growing season helped protect the grapes from too much sun. Although warm daytime temperatures persisted throughout the fall, evening temperatures were cool, perfect conditions to maintain the grapes' natural acidity and fully ripen the vintage's small, thick-skinned berries. The resulting wines are both powerful and elegant.

Winemaking: As in previous vintages, hand-sorted grapes underwent a variety of fermentation techniques to build layers of complexity and richness in this refined blend. Cabernet Sauvignon was fermented in 400L French oak barrels that were gently rolled throughout fermentation to add structure and showcase the grapes' rich, supple tannins. All other varieties were fermented in traditional stainless steel tanks, with select lots enjoying longer skin contact to enhance the wine's dark color and mid-palate. Aged 22 months in all French oak barrels, 75% new, and bottled unfiltered and unfined.

Vineyards: This gorgeous Bordeaux blend relies on Red Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon for its structure and richness with top-quality grapes from Sagemoor Farms rounding out the blend. Weinbau Vineyard (Wahluke Slope) Merlot offers bright red and black fruit intensity. Cabernet Franc, also from Weinbau Vineyard, adds elegance and mouth-feel. Dionysus Vineyard Petit Verdot provides layers of complex aromas and flavors.

Blend: 65% Cabernet Sauvignon Alcohol: 15.1%

21% Merlot **pH:** 3.83 11% Petit Verdot **TA:** 0.58

3% Malbec Production: 2,068 cases