

Eliana's Blend

2013 | COLUMBIA VALLEY



50% Dionysus Vineyard Petit Verdot
Clone 2

50% Upland Vineyard Cabernet
Sauvignon - Clone 8

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

pH: 3.82

TA: 5.10 g/liter

RS: 0.2 g/liter

14.5% alc. by vol.

47 cases produced



Harvest and Winemaking

2013 was one of the warmest vintages we have experienced until a series of Pacific storms hit the Northwest in early October. The weather immediately changed to cool fall days and cold night. This weather change allowed Cabernet Sauvignon grapes to hang on the vine longer.

Upland Vineyard is one of Washington's oldest Cabernet sites (planted in 1973). Dionysus Vineyard is a unique site for Petit Verdot. Traditionally Petit Verdot is a slow to ripen, highly acidic wine that is used for blending into Bordeaux Blends. Dionysus' terrior of a steep Southwest facing slope along the Columbia River allows the vineyard to ripen faster and produce wine with greater richness and intensity.

All the grapes were picked, we hand sorted the clusters, destemmed, and bled off 8% of the juice to further concentrate the flavors in the resulting wine. The native yeasts fermented the wine to dryness and only the free run wine was retained after pressing.

Denise and Brett Isenhower selected the best barrel of Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot to create the Eliana's Blend. The wine was blended in August 2014 and bottled in December 2015.

Tasting

Petit Verdot notes are in the forefront with dark fruit and pencil lead. Cabernet Sauvignon quickly follows with dark raspberry and subtle eucalyptus notes. There is a saturation and concentration dialog between the bright Cabernet Sauvignon and rich Petit Verdot.

A full, rich and balanced attack has beautiful fruit from both varietals completely integrated. Eliana's Blend has a weighty, viscous sensation and good acid all wrapped up together from the start. Mouthfeel tannins join midway through to carry things, along with a subtle brinness and black tea. A layer of spice emerges midway through contributing to complexity and length. Artwork by Eliana Isenhower, age 7.

Isenhower

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