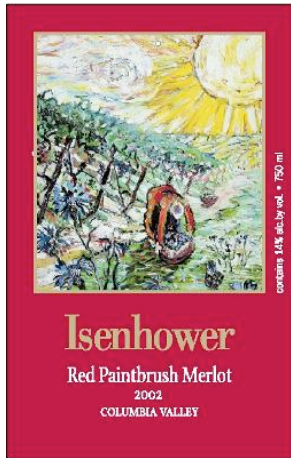




## TASTING NOTES



### 2002 Columbia Valley Red Paintbrush Merlot

80% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Syrah

All grapes from the Sundance Vineyard, part of the Milbrandt Vineyards

#### Winemaker Notes

The Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Syrah grapes were destemmed and fermented in small open top fermentors. The cap was punched down three times daily. All lots were pressed at dryness and immediately transferred to barrel.

The Merlot was placed in a combination of New and Used American Oak. The Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah were placed in New and Used French Oak. Malo-lactic fermentation was completed in barrel. The Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah were blended in the Merlot at the second racking. The final blend was placed into used French oak barrels for finishing.

The 2002 Red Paintbrush Merlot is the third of the series. The Red Paintbrush Merlot is full of red fruit with perfectly balanced acidity and tannins and a seamless finish. Red Paintbrush is becoming something of an icon. Great name, beautiful wine, and true example of the velvety nature of Washington Merlot with a unique twist!

Alcohol 14.0% 480 cases bottled on December 19th, 2003

#### Source of the Name

Denise and Brett were hiking in the Wallowa Mountains of Eastern Oregon during the summer of 2001 spotted the wildflower, Indian Paintbrush, which has the nickname of "Red Paintbrush". Brett likes the metaphor of Merlot being the canvas with brushstrokes of Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah painted in for complexity.

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