

2008 Mourvedre

H O R S E H E A V E N H I L L S



WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Also known as Monastrell or Mataro this red grape is used widely in France's Provence region as a component in blends with Grenache to add color, structure, fruit and spice. In Washington, on its own, it displays flavors of blackberries, black pepper, sage and gaminess and deserves to be shown on its own merits.

VINEYARD SOURCING

The Mourvedre grapes from this wine come from our Spice Cabinet Vineyard, located in the Horse Heaven Hills, overlooking the Columbia River. This vineyard sits in a small southeast facing bowl which captures the early morning sun and escapes the brunt of the hot late afternoon sun. This allows the Mourvedre grapes to slowly ripen and develop the best flavors, color and tannin.

GROWING SEASON

The 2008 growing season was warm, ripening the grapes early. However the winemaker had to be patient to wait for good flavor and tannin development prior to harvest.

WINEMAKING

The wine was fermented in small bins and punched down by hand three times daily. After pressing off the wine was aged in neutral French oak barrels for twenty months to develop but not mask the grape's natural flavors with oak. A small amount of Grenache, 5%, was blended to lift the fruit and add a layer of flavor. Only three barrels (75 cases) were produced.

MERCER ESTATES

Mercer Estates is dedicated to producing distinctive wines through equal passions for grape growing and winemaking. With over 100 years of agricultural history in Horse Heaven Hills, Yakima Valley and Columbia Valley; we employ award winning, sustainable farming practices that ensure our wines express the true character of our vineyards. Get to know our winemaking families at www.mercerwine.com.

"Two spirited wine growing families that embody the flavor and soul of their lands".

TECHNICAL NOTES

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| Appellation | Horse Heaven Hills |
| Blend | 95% Mourvedre, 5% Grenache |
| Alcohol | 14.6% |
| T.A. | 0.61 g/100 mL |
| pH | 3.73 |
| Cases..... | 75 |

