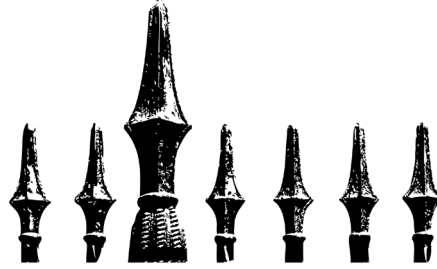


# GRAMERCY CELLARS



## 2015 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

### COLUMBIA VALLEY



**BLEND:** 83% CAB SAUV, 15% MERLOT,  
2% PETIT VERDOT

**VINEYARDS:** PHINNY HILL, BACCHUS, PEPPER  
BRIDGE, OCTAVE ESTATE

**AGING:** 20 MONTHS IN 50% NEW FRENCH  
OAK

**ALCOHOL:** 14.3%

**WINERY RETAIL:** 50

**CASE PRODUCTION:** 975 CASES

**DRINKING WINDOW:** 2018 - 2036

My love for Cabernet is growing so deep that I'm now getting mocked by 25 year old sommeliers in New York City. On a recent trip, I suggested we order a fantastic classified Bordeaux. (I'm not throwing down for First Growths. There is now a lot of value in Bordeaux.) One of them commented - Dude, you are OLD. Next, you are going to want to order Port. Fully mocked. But sorry, I have grown to love well balanced, thoughtfully made, terroir-driven Cabernet. Especially in Washington.

The Cabernet Sauvignon always contains two vital parts - Phinny Hill and Sagemoor Vineyards. They are like chocolate and peanut butter together. The 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon is about 60% Phinny Hill Cabernet Sauvignon and 20% Bacchus Cabernet Sauvignon. Each vineyard contributes vitally to the final blend. Phinny is backbone and elegance; Bacchus, as the vines are 45+ years old, is all about power and complexity.

Last year, with the 2014 Cabernet, we said Merlot took its ball and went home. Well, Merlot worked hard in the offseason - trained well and ate clean. It comes back in full force in 2015, representing about 15% of the blend. While the 2013 (8%) and 2012 (10%) had high percentages of Merlot, only the 2008 (14%) matches the Merlot percentage of the 2015 Cabernet. (I can tell you the 2008 Cabernet's are in a perfect place right now. Drink up!)

A few years ago, we acquired the oldest block of Merlot at Pepper Bridge Vineyard. It's an ideal component of this wine. Some may ask - why Walla Walla Merlot? I feel if they didn't make that movie Walla Walla Merlot would be an iconic variety. I always grin when Chuck Rhoades gets messed with in Billions. Punishment for the Merlot comments. Walla Walla Merlot adds intensity and complexity in the mid-palate that is unique to Walla Walla. Adding Merlot from other areas doesn't ignite the spark for us. Walla Walla Merlot is the smack that Cabernet loves and needs.

The 2015 Cabernet is a blend of 83% Cab Sauv, 15% Merlot & 2% Petit Verdot. It was aged in 50% new French oak and the remainder in 2-5 year old French barrels.

**TASTING NOTES:** RED, BLUE AND BLACK FRUIT, GRAVEL, MINERAL, DEEP, ELEGANT, COMPLEX, SILKY, MEDIUM-PLUS ACIDITY, FIRM TANNIN. CHOCOLATE, PENCIL SHAVINGS, RED FLOWERS, FOREST FLOOR, MUSHROOM AND CEDAR.

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