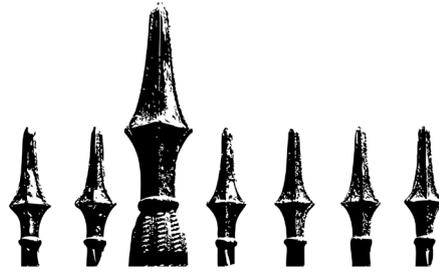


GRAMERCY CELLARS



2016 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

COLUMBIA VALLEY



BLEND: 92% CAB SAUV, 7% MERLOT,
1% PETIT VERDOT

VINEYARDS: PHINNY HILL, BACCHUS,
GRAMERCY ESTATE

AGING: 22 MONTHS IN 30% NEW FRENCH
OAK

ALCOHOL: 14.1%

WINERY RETAIL: 50

CASE PRODUCTION: 1493 CASES

DRINKING WINDOW: 2022 - 2042,
otherwise decant for at least 2 hours.

WINE ADVOCATE: 93 POINTS

WINE ENTHUSIAST: 92 POINTS (EDITOR'S CHOICE)

JEB DUNNUCK: 92 POINTS

The Cabernet Sauvignon always contains two vital parts - Phinny Hill and Sagemoor Vineyards. They are like chocolate and peanut butter together. However, 2016 saw a noteworthy introduction of our Estate vineyards in Walla Walla. For the past few years, we have moved the vineyards from sustainable to organic and are ecstatic with the results.

The 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon is about 40% Phinny Hill, 33% Gramercy Estate and 27% Sagemoor - Bacchus & Dionysus blocks. Each vineyard is vital to the final blend. As always, Phinny is red fruit, backbone, and elegance. Sagemoor, with its aging vines 25 to almost 50 years old, is all about power and complexity. We have two estate vineyards in Walla Walla for Bordeaux varieties. Our JB George vineyard, across the street from the famed Pepper Bridge Vineyards, provided Cabernet. Brandon must have drunk an extra Red Bull that day, as we decided to ferment the Estate Cabernet in concrete, with fantastic results - mineral, tannin, smoke and, most of all, structure. In past years, Merlot from the old block at Pepper Bridge was included in the blend. In 2016, we used our JB George Estate Merlot. And lastly, we added a splash of Petit Verdot from our Octave Estate Vineyard, located adjacent to but high above Seven Hills Vineyard.

A note on Merlot. It's always a guessing game on the amount of Merlot. Merlot fills in the gaps that can be missing from Cabernet, especially in the mid-palate. In 2015, Merlot represented about 15% of the blend, as it did in 2008. The 2016 is a return to tradition, in line with the 2013 (8%) and 2012 (10%).

Secondly, the Merlot is always Walla Walla Merlot. It 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 2016 Cabernet is a blend of 92% Cab Sauv, 7% Merlot & 1% Petit Verdot. It was aged in 30% new French oak and the remainder in 2-5-year-old French barrels. Per Brandon, "I think this is the best Columbia Valley Cabernet we have ever done."

TASTING NOTES: SCREAMS CABERNET ALL DAY. RED AND BLACK FRUITS, GRAVEL, PENCIL LEAD. CEDAR. DARK CHOCOLATE. DUST/DIRT. ACID IS MEDIUM+ WITH SEXY, DEVELOPED TANNINS. HUGE, LONG FINISH. ALMOST JUICY BUT VERY SERIOUS. SLIGHT HERBAL EDGE. OAK 100% INTEGRATED. WOW. WE MADE THIS?



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