

2001 Cabernet Sauvignon

Columbia Valley, Washington

THE WINE

The Hogue 2001 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon is a classically structured Bordeaux-style wine with ripe tannins. Aromas of bright cherry and an undercurrent of earth are followed by flavors of intense berry and cherry, and a pleasant hint of forest floor. The touch of oak is well integrated and contributes notes of cedar, spice, and vanilla. This complex wine has good length and depth in the finish and a balanced palate that only great wines can achieve.

VINTAGE AND VINEYARDS

The 2001 vintage temperatures were below average during spring and early summer. June was very cool, with an average temperature of 80°F but the thermometers really spiked in August with an average temperature of 90°F for the month. A summer drought provided an extra challenge for water management. Ultimately, it turned out to be a rewarding vintage in both the vineyard and the winery. Moderate crop loads ensured very good color and tannin development. For the third consecutive year, the Desert Wind Vineyard on the Wahluke Slope supplied most of the Cabernet Sauvignon. We started picking the early ripening variety Merlot on September 12, followed by the Syrah on September 23, and we finished harvesting the Cabernet Sauvignon on October 7.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The grapes were destemmed and crushed, and the must fermented in stainless steel at around 90° F. The wine was pressed when tannin and color extraction were in balance. After malolactic fermentation, the wine aged for 27 months in new and one-year-old French oak barrels. After careful evaluation of each barrel, the lots were blended so that the characteristics of each Reserve vineyard came together into a complete and complex wine. The wine was bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

WINE DATA

Appellation: Columbia Valley

Varietal Percentage: 76 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 14 % Merlot, 8 % Syrah, 2 % Cabernet Franc.

Harvest Brix: 25.8°

TA: 0.61 g/100 ml

pH: 3.61

Alcohol: 14.6%

Release Date: March 2004

HOGUE
RESERVE