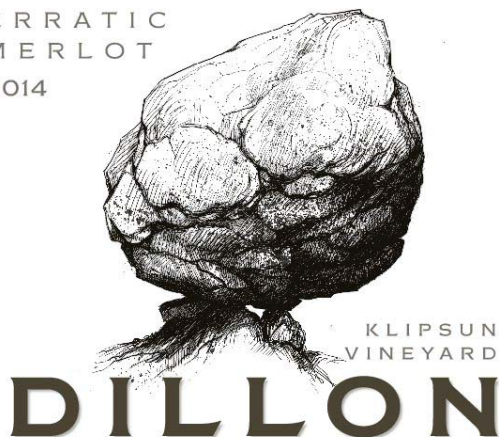


ERRATIC
MERLOT
2014



2014 ERRATIC MERLOT

HARVESTED	September 5, 2014
VINEYARD	Klipsun Vineyards
BOTTLED	March 25, 2017
COMPOSITION	100% Merlot
ALCOHOL	13.9%
RELEASE DATE	April 2018

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2014 growing season started early and continued with dry, warm temperatures bringing on an early harvest. The growing season was long and, along with abundant warmth and sunshine, helped produce small berries with concentrated flavors and elegant tannins.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Timing was critical for the Merlot this year as flavors & sugars developed early. We hand-picked, whole clusters, in the cool early morning which were then sorted and gently destemmed as whole berries into 1.5 ton fermenters covered with dry ice and allowed to cold soak, with daily foot crushing, until native fermentation kicked off after 6 days. Fermenting cool (under 75F) with twice daily punchdowns until near dryness. 30 day post-fermentation maceration. Pressed to tank for 24 hours of settling and barreled down. Weekly battonnage (stirring) through native malolactic, then racked twice during elevage and once more for light polish filtration to bottling. Barrel aged sur lies for 28 months. 33% new French oak. 1 year of bottle age prior to release.

TASTING NOTES

This wine opens with vibrant notes of red cherry and red plums, followed by pencil shavings, leather, tar and dried violets. On the back end, with fine, dusty tannins, there is white chocolate and roasted chicory to help frame the lively, lengthy finish.

LABEL NOTES

Erratics are boulders that differ from the surrounding rock. In Washington State, many erratics arrived, encased in ice, during the cataclysmic Missoula Floods (worth looking up). For this label, we hired an artist to draw an erratic boulder as our homage to the complex geological history and soils of Washington State.

VINEYARD

Located on the southwest slope of Red Mountain, Klipsun Vineyard grows some of Washington's highest quality wine grapes. Overlooking the Yakima River, this site receives abundant sunshine, heat and wind, which, in addition to excellent farming, create grapes full of flavor, complexity and depth. First planted in 1983, this Merlot was planted in 1990.