

CÔTES DE CIEL

2012 Flagship Reserve CIEL DU CHEVAL VINEYARD, RED MOUNTAIN

TASTING NOTES

A big and intense blend of Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine was fermented in roller barrels to give it a round and full mouth-feel. It was aged for 22 months in six different new French Oak barrels to give a complex series of oak flavors that balance the intense fruit flavors.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The *Flagship Reserve* is a blend of three different Bordeaux grape varieties -- Merlot (50%), Cabernet Sauvignon (33%) and Cabernet Franc (17%). The wine was fermented in oak roller barrels to create a wine with a generous and round mouthfeel. The normally supple tannins found in grapes from Ciel du Cheval are further refined to create a wine with a full and round feeling in the mouth while preserving the intense fruit flavors. Following fermentation the wine was moved to 100% new French oak and aged for 22 months. The barrel selection varied with each lot, giving a complex series of flavors from the barrels that match the intensity of the fruit flavors from the grapes.

ABOUT THE WINERY

A grower owned winery, Côtes de Ciel was founded in 2012, by the Holmes family of *Ciel du Cheval* vineyards. Bringing the same passion and intense focus to detail that has produced some of the most acclaimed grapes in Washington, a great winemaking team is paired with great grapes to produce hand-crafted wines that are terroir focused and remain true to the winegrower's vision.

144 Cases Produced

It's like you're looking at that place and asking, 'who are you?' And the wine—the way it tastes and smells, the images it evokes: That's the place answering you.

"Return to Red Mountain," Seattle Met
Jessica Voelker, August 2011

2012 PRODUCTION TEAM

All wine starts its journey in the vineyard and moves through the winery. Throughout this process, many people make a significant contribution and impact on the wine. Below are a few of the key people that impacted the 2012 vintage.

WINERY

Winemaking Consultant
Associate Winemaker
Enologist

Charlie Hoppes
Mitch Venohr
Hilary Sjolund

VINEYARD

Wine Grower
Vineyard Owners
Vineyard Manager
Assistant Vineyard Manager

Richard Holmes
Jim and Pat Holmes
Ryan Johnson
Sadie Drury