

CANOE RIDGE VINEYARD

THE EXPLORER

2020 | RED BLEND

AS LEGEND HAS IT, explorers Lewis and Clark noticed a ridge resembling an overturned canoe on their Columbia River journey, inspiring our Canoe Ridge Vineyard name. Established in 1989, Canoe Ridge Vineyard is one of Washington State's leading wineries, offering true varietal character made for everyday enjoyment. From our estate vineyard in the Horse Heaven Hills to the surrounding Columbia Valley, winemaker Bill Murray selects from the very best grapes to create each varietal offering.



ABOUT THE EXPLORER

For the wine enthusiast with a true Northwest taste for adventure, The Explorer by Canoe Ridge Vineyard reflects the natural beauty and terroir of our Horse Heaven Hills vineyard overlooking the Columbia River.

TASTING NOTE

This fruit-forward blend offers notes of cassis, blackberry, plum, and kiss of vanilla on the lingering finish.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE

The 2020 growing season proved to be an excellent year, particularly for red varieties. Quality from this vintage has proven excellent due to stellar weather. Smaller-than-anticipated tons per acre and relatively small berry size allowed the grapes to ripen earlier than prior years. The vineyard teams harvested earlier than usual while the weather outside was ideal. At harvest, the reds were showing more intensity in this vintage than the last few harvests; most lots expressed exceptional fruity characteristics and darker colors, promising more intense flavor concentrations in the end result. Ultimately, 2020 delivered a high-quality harvest.

ACCOLADES

2015 Best Buy, *Wine & Spirits* | 91 points, *Wine Spectator*

APPELLATION

Horse Heaven Hills

VINEYARDS

90% Alder ridge Vineyard, 10% Canoe Ridge Vineyard

VARIETY PERCENTAGE

57% Merlot, 33% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Petit Verdot

HARVEST DATE

October 2020

OAK

45% new French oak

AGED

18 months in barrel

TA

4.96 g/l

PH

3.89

ALC

14.0%