

## 2014 Chester-Kidder Red Wine Columbia Valley Gilles Nicault, Winemaker

**Tasting Notes**: Brimming with expressive aromas and flavors of ripe black cherries, violets, oak spice and a hint of graphite, the 2014 Chester-Kidder offers layers of depth and complexity. Its rich texture and firm yet refined tannins linger across a lengthy finish that showcases the vibrant character of this limited production wine.

**Vintage:** The 2014 vintage enjoyed a picture-perfect growing season that produced rich, flavorful wines. Spring arrived early, warm and dry, setting the stage for another hot summer. Temperatures were consistently warm, hastening an early start to harvest, but the Columbia Valley's balmy fall days and cool autumn nights slowed ripening just enough to allow the grapes to reach full physiological maturity while preserving the fruits' natural acidity.

**Winemaking:** Select Cabernet Sauvignon lots underwent an extended maceration of 40 days to produced supple tannins that stand up to 30 months of barrel aging in tight-grained French oak barrels (85% new). The extra time in barrel helped to integrate the fruit, enhance the mid-palate with an extra layer of complexity, and provide an appealing earthiness to the finish.

**Vineyards**: More than half the grapes used in the 2014 Chester-Kidder were grown on Red Mountain and surrounding vineyards to give the wine its firm structure and wonderful intensity. Walla Walla Valley vineyards comprise 21% of the blend, contributing dark, rich textures while grapes from Weinbau Vineyard, an exceptional site on the Wahluke Slope, added a layer of ripe, fresh flavors and refined tannins.

Alcohol: 15.3% pH: 3.91 TA: 0.59 grams/100ml Blend: 66% Cabernet Sauvignon 28% Syrah 6% Petit Verdot Production: 1,815 cases

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