



SHOUP

2008

RED WINE
COLUMBIA VALLEY

Tasting Notes: Deep in color, the 2008 Shoup is an intensely concentrated wine that offers currant, ripe plum and oak spice aromas. With its opulent mouth feel and focused layers of blackberry, minerality and spice on the palate, this wine is equally notable for its rich dimension and a lengthy, textured finish.

Vintage: The 2008 growing season was a bit cooler than usual, delaying veraison slightly, but thorough care throughout the growing season kept the vines in balance and set the stage for an excellent vintage. Weather conditions were beautiful in September and October, marked by the Columbia Valley's warm fall days and cool nights. The grapes ripened perfectly, and the resulting wines offer lush, bold flavors and balanced acidity.

Winemaking: Grapes were handpicked at optimal ripeness, and then trucked to the winery in small bins for crushing and de-stemming. After moving into small, one and one-half ton fermenters to extract richness without compromising structure, the wine was moved to Alain Fouquet barrels (80% new) for 22 months. This fourth generation French cooper crafts barrels perfected suited to the style of the wine, one that showcases great concentration from an unusually high percentage of Petit Verdot (20%) and seeks to deliver a polished backbone with sophisticated layers of fruit and complexity.

Vineyards: Cabernet Sauvignon from Sonnet Vineyard at the Benches in the Horse Heaven Hills forms the basis for this wine and gives the 2008 Shoup its elegance and structure. Dionysus Vineyard Merlot enhances the wine's color and rich flavors; Red Mountain Merlot brings bold, dark fruit. Dionysus Vineyard Petit Verdot adds a layer of refinement, contributing vibrant blueberry and offering good structure and acidity. Weinbau Vineyard Cabernet Franc builds in an extra layer of complexity.

Blend: 50% Cabernet Sauvignon
25% Merlot
20% Petit Verdot
5% Cabernet Franc

Alcohol: 14.7%
pH: 3.88
TA: 0.55 grams/100ml
Production: less than 100 cases