



2012 OBELISCO III Nefer Cabernet Sauvignon

AVA: Red Mountain

Winemakers: Sarah Goedhart, Pete Hedges, Doug Long

Blend: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Vineyards: 100% Obelisco

Bottling: 76 cases 750ml

Alcohol: 15.4% vol.

Barrels: 67% new oak; 100% French.



Tasting Notes: Deep, dark purple, almost black color. This wine is low to open up, but your patience will be rewarded. Rich, dark blackberry fruit aromas with wet clay, toast, mincemeat spice and graham cracker notes. On the palate this wine is full, rich and slightly sweet with blackberry fruit, mincemeat spice, toasted oak and hints of graham cracker, clove, licorice and leather. The mouth feel is dark, brooding and powerful on the entry and in the mid-palate and with a nice balance of acid and tannins. The finish is big, big, big and slightly oily and well structured.

Cellaring: Because it is made from 100% Red Mountain Cabernet press wine this wine should age well for the next 20 to 25 years. Because it is Obelisco fruit, it is surprisingly soft and inviting now for 100% press wine.

Production: All the fruit for this wine is from Obelisco Vineyard. The high density planting yields smaller berries, which contribute to the concentrated flavors. This is 100% press wine fraction, which explains the concentration, depth, dark color and more structured tannins. Combine this with 19 months in 67% new French Oak and you get a wine that invitingly combines great fruit and oak, and should age for a long time.

Harvest notes: 2012 was another excellent and more normal vintage in Washington State, which was a welcome change after the cooler and wetter 2010 and 2011 vintages. The “fading” La Nina current brought warmer and more consistent spring and summer temperatures. The extended warm, dry autumn had perfect 80 to 85 Fahrenheit afternoon highs and 40 to 50 Fahrenheit lows without rain. The result was great set that yielded ripe, disease free fruit with good natural acidity. The resulting wines reflect the excellent qualities of the fruit. Probably one of the top 5 vintages in the history of Washington State.

— — —