



2014 OBELISCO Malbec

AVA: Red Mountain

Winemakers: Sarah Goedhart, Pete Hedges, Doug Long

Blend: 86% Malbec , 14% Cabernet Sauvignon

Vineyards: 100% Obelisco

Bottling: 347 cases 750ml

Alcohol: 13.7% vol.

Barrels: 30% new oak, 100% French

Tasting Notes: Deep, dark red-purple color. Very pure aromas of black cherry and dried basil shine through, with undertones of cocoa powder, clove, vanilla and cola. On the palate the wine is medium to full-bodied. It is slightly sweet consisting of dried herb notes, dark cherry, pie cherry fruit, slight vanilla toast with a slightly tart mid-palate and a long, soft finish. It's a pleasure to smell and drink. Yummy.

Cellaring: This wine is drinking well now, especially if you like to sniff and sniff and sniff again to smell the ever-evolving aromatics. It will be interesting to see how the intense fruit of this wine changes with age. This is a Malbec, and is well known for its great softness and fruit. It is also 100% Red Mountain, which is known for its longer-aged wines. We're guessing this wine should be a good cellar ager. The Cabernet added to the mix will bring on the longevity a bit more. We are continually pleased with how consistently good the Red Mountain Malbec has become.

Production: The fruit for this wine is from Obelisco Vineyard. The high density planting yields smaller berries, which contribute to the concentrated flavors. Combine this with 22 months in mostly neutral oak and you get a wine with vibrant, ripe fruit and a complex, pleasing herbal note.

Harvest notes: 2014 was another warm year following the heat of 2013. Despite the heat, it seemed like maturation happened at an even tempo right up until harvest. Thankfully the cool nights that happen in September on Red Mountain slowed the sugar production down a bit and let the flavors develop just enough. At the time, it seemed like the new normal would be to harvest in early September. However, no year ever seems like the last one. The phenolics and tannins in the grapes certainly fit the Obelisco style in 2014. With all of the crazy harvest fluctuations, the Obelisco vineyard on Red Mountain just seems to never disappoint us.

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