



## 2014 THE VELVET DEVIL MERLOT

*This little devil is wrapped in a velvet robe. Full with density and bursting with flavor. Dark fruit, cherry, blackberry. Brimming with cedar, pipe tobacco and earth. Truth in a name: Velvet.*

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### BLEND

94% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
2% Malbec, 1% Cabernet Franc

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### APPELLATION

Columbia Valley

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### PRODUCTION

Whole Berry Fermentation  
Yeast: Partially Native  
30% New French Oak  
10 Months Barrel-Aged on Lees

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### WINE ANALYSIS

5.1 grams/L Total Acidity  
3.82 pH  
13.6% Alcohol

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### UPC

184745000195

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### CURRENT & PAST SCORES

#### **89 points, *Wine Spectator* (2013 Vintage)**

“Fresh, vivid and appealing, with floral overtones around a polished core of currant and cranberry flavors, lingering deftly. Drink now through 2019.”

#### **87 points, *Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate* (2013 Vintage)**

“Another good value that will certainly deliver for mid-week drinking, the 2013 Charles Smith The Velvet Devil Merlot has lots of plummy fruit, cedary spice and hints of wild herbs in a medium-bodied, deliciously quaffable package. It’s well-made, easy-drinking and best consumed over the coming year or two.”

### VINEYARDS

**Sundance:** One of the oldest vineyards on the Wahluke Slope, planted in 1997. The site is topsoil over gravel, sand and broken down basalt with more caliche than other sites in the Wahluke. The vineyard, because of its aspect, is also a later ripening site allowing for great concentration.

**Art Den Hoed:** 250 acres over the south slope of the Rattlesnake Mountains in the Yakima AVA at 1300 feet elevation. The excellent air drainage and higher elevation work to preserve the natural acids in the grapes while flavors mature.

**Goose Ridge:** This 2,200 acre vineyard receives less than 8 inches of rainfall annually. It is a gently sloped, south-facing site adjacent to Red Mountain. Long, warm summer days and cool nights produce grapes noted for their ripe, rich character.

**Weyns:** Located in the Royal Slope area, which is part of the Columbia Valley AVA. It is about 1,000 ft elevation on sandy loam soils.

**Hawk:** 150 acres in the Wahluke Slope that was planted in 2010. The site has an elevation of 750-850 feet with a gentle southwest slope and has alluvial, sandy soils.

**Oasis:** Located in the Yakima Valley, this higher elevation site is located on the north edge of Yakima Valley. It has sandy, limestone soils.

**Purple Sage:** Located on the Wahluke Slope, this site is made up of sandy, alluvial soils.

