



## Wine Flight March 4, 2015

### The Wines of Washington State

Washington's first wine grapes were planted at Fort Vancouver by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1825. By 1910, wine grapes were grown in most areas of the state, following the path of early settlers. French, German and Italian immigrants pioneered the earliest plantings.

Due to its desert like climate and sandy soil, eastern Washington is one of the few regions on earth that does not have to graft its vines onto rootstock. Phylloxera is an aphid that damages roots by feeding on them and leaving them prey to disease and nutrient deficiencies. As a result, other places must graft the genus *Vitis Vinifera* vines like Chardonnay and Cabaret Sauvignon (which are prone to phylloxera) onto another type (or genus) of rootstock such as *Vitis Riparia* or *Vitis Rupestris* that is not. For the most part, the wines of eastern Washington are 100% the grape variety planted.

### 2013 Chateau Ste. Michelle Eroica Riesling

Built on the 1912 estate owned by Seattle lumber baron Frederick Stimson, the winery's roots date back to 1934, right after the repeal of Prohibition. Chateau Ste. Michelle is the oldest winery in Washington and also one of the few premium wineries in the world with two state-of-the-art wineries, one devoted to whites and another to reds.



#### Tasting Notes:

With candied lime peel, lemon, tangerine and subtle mineral notes on the nose, this white offers bright, juicy acidity that is beautifully balanced by green apple freshness, flavorful peach and hints of mango on the finish.

PLCB 549827 @ \$16.09  
12% ABV

### 2012 Mercer Canyon Chardonnay

Columbia Valley is one of the United States' very largest official wine regions with over 40,000 acres are under vine.

Grapes for this wine come primarily from Zephyr Ridge vineyard in the Horse Heaven Hills. The remaining grapes were sourced from Sagemoor vineyard in the Columbia Valley.

#### Tasting Notes:

Sweet vanilla and pineapple juice lead into honeysuckle and floral notes on the nose. Ample fruit is balanced with a note of minerality to create an elegant, balanced wine.

PLCB 543739 @ \$15.99  
13.9% ABV

*All collage artwork is by Washington state artist Carol Hansen Grey who practices Random Art Drops:*

"I leave original pieces of art in random public locations as a reminder of the important role art plays in our lives and hopefully inspire the finder to explore ways to bring out his or her artistic spirit."

### 2012 Chateau Ste. Michelle Indian Wells Merlot

This Merlot (with a bit of Syrah) is aged in 37% new American oak, 17% new French oak, and 46% neutral oak barrels. French oak barrels typically offer textures of satin or silk. American barrels tend to be stronger in flavor, often described as cream soda, vanilla, or coconut, resulting in creamier wines.

#### Tasting Notes:

With red-ruby color, this Merlot has plum, currant and chocolate on the nose. With currant, chewy cherries, tobacco and cedar flavors and a hint of vanilla, it also has a full dose of sweet oak. It finishes with a supple density.



PLCB 551847 @ \$16.99  
14.5% ABV

### 2011 Mercer Canyon Red Blend

This wine is a blend of 81% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Petit Verdot, 3% Carmenere, 2% Grenache, and 1% Malbec.



#### Tasting Notes:

This wine is bursting with ripe cherries and plum as well as notes of vanilla and tobacco. A balance of plush fruit and structured tannins in the mid-palate leads into a long, lingering finish with notes of Bing cherry and spice.

PLCB 543741 @ \$18.99  
13.9% ABV

*All wines featured are SLOs.*