

Mark Ryan Winery

Dead Horse

Cabernet Sauvignon

The 2012 Vintage

2012 was a very consistent vintage. Weather in early spring and summer presented ideal growing conditions.

The weather remained excellent through August and October allowing us to pick the grapes at optimum maturity without the threat of inclement weather. The wines produced offer an exceptional combination of primary fruit and secondary non-fruit aromatics coupled with exquisite depth and focus on the palate. 2012 provides an outstanding opportunity to sample Washington state wine at its finest.

Winemakers Notes

The 2012 Dead Horse Cabernet Sauvignon is a testament to a beautiful vintage and the incredible work done in vineyards. Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot show the power of this vintage, while the Merlot and Cabernet France lend balance and refinement. Each lot was fermented separately in 1.5-ton fermenters from between 12 and 18 days. Then the wines were gently pressed to barrel where malolactic fermentation was completed. The wine was racked only twice prior to bottling and is unfinned and unfiltered.

Tasting Notes

The 2012 Dead Horse perfectly exemplifies this outstanding vintage with its purity and power. This Cabernet boasts vibrant aromas of black cherry and blueberries mingling with purple spring flowers and toasty vanilla. The palate displays remarkable polish and purity of fruit, with a dense core of black fruits supported by notes of hot stones and sweet vanilla. The wine's tannin and fresh acidity make this wine a prime candidate for aging, but its freshness and youthful vibrancy are virtues that should be explored.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 82% Cabernet Sauvignon,
9% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc & 2% Petit Verdot

VINEYARD SOURCES: Ciel du Cheval Vineyard, Klipsun Vineyards & Obelisco Vineyard,
Force Majeur Vineyard, Quintessence Vineyard

APPELLATION: Red Mountain

OAK COMPOSITION: 66% New French Oak

NEW BARREL PRODUCER: Château Ferré Thin Stave

BARREL AGING: 20 months

CHEMISTRY: Alc. 15.1%, pH 3.66, TA 0.67 g/100ml

BOTTLING DATE: June 3rd, 2014

RELEASE DATE: October 4th, 2014

Mark Ryan Winery

Founded in 1999 by Mark Ryan McNeilly, Mark Ryan Winery is a small winery located in Woodinville, Washington. Our goal is to produce handcrafted wines that represent the vineyard from which they come, the character of the varietal, and our style. From the vineyards to the winery, our uncompromising commitment to quality and our passion to produce the best wines possible, inspire us to make these wines for you.