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2005 Champoux Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon

VINTAGE

The 2005 vintage was a classic vintage for the Columbia Valley. The warm temperatures of July and August gave way to ideal ripening conditions in September and October that enabled winemakers to produce wines of exceptional depth and complexity. Undoubtedly, the wines of the 2005 vintage rank among the finest produced in Washington during the last 25 years.

VINEYARDS

One of the advantages of having made wine in the Columbia Valley since the mid-1980s is the opportunity it's given me to work with some of the most dedicated growers in the industry. During all that time, Champoux Vineyard has stood at the top of the list of outstanding vineyards in Washington State. Located in the Horse Heavens, this vineyard consistently produces wines with exceptional depth, complexity, and elegance.

WINEMAKING

After destemming and crushing, grapes were fermented on their skins for eight days. After being pressed off, this lot was aged for 20 months in primarily new French Oak barrels to improve its already lengthy finish. Racking the wine every three months created pliant tannins and a bold, stylish structure.

TASTING NOTES

Made from what is arguably Washington State's best vineyard for the variety, the Champoux Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon is a sleek and powerful wine. Rich and concentrated, the nose is loaded with cassis and black cherry, while the palate is brimming with supple tannins and tremendous length.



ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity0.52g/100ml
 pH.....3.67
 Blend... ..96% Cabernet Sauvignon
 4% Merlot
 Cases.....268
 Bottling Date..... July 26, 2007

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker