



# *2010 Fidelitas Malbec*

*columbia valley*

## TASTING NOTES

The 2010 Fidelitas Malbec comes from four distinct vineyards found in the Wahluke Slope, Yakima Valley, and Red Mountain AVA's. The wine shines a deep purple in the glass, offering aromas of plum, dark cherry, licorice, clove, and white pepper. These flavors are confirmed with bright cherry tones, juicy plum, and hints of cedar and spice, all accompanied by a round, full palate, balanced yet vibrant acidity, and soft tannins. Drink now through 2016.

## VARIETAL COMPOSITION

100% Malbec

## VINEYARDS

40% of the fruit in the 2010 Malbec comes from Northridge-Milbrandt, on the northern border of the Wahluke Slope, adding deep plum and dark fruit notes. Another 30% is sourced from Olsen Estate Vineyard in the Yakima Valley, while yet another 20% of the fruit is sourced from the cooler Conner Lee Vineyard that lies in the northeastern of the Wahluke Slope and adds herbal, spicy tones to the wine. The final 10% comes from Scootney Flats on Red Mountain, which lends bright fruit tones and lively tannins.

## VINTAGE

The 2010 vintage proved to be one of the coolest growing seasons on record, creating challenges yet great promise in the wines. A cool, wet spring was followed by moderate temperatures throughout the summer, creating lower than usual yields for naturally high acidity and excellent concentration in the fruit. The temperatures warmed up by September and continued with sunshine all the way through the final ripening season for bright fruit tones in the wines.

## VINIFICATION and AGING

All fruit for Fidelitas is hand picked and sorted in the vineyard. At the winery, grapes are destemmed and crushed directly into small fermentation tanks where the must is punched down three times daily for an average of seven days. Upon completion of fermentation, the wine is gently pressed off and immediately put into barrel, where it undergoes malolactic fermentation. While aging in oak barrels, the wines are racked quarterly to naturally clarify the wine. The 2010 Columbia Valley Malbec was aged in 30% new French oak.

## RELEASE DATE

November 2012, 481 cases

## ALCOHOL

14.8% alcohol by volume

