FORT BERENS

ESTATE WINERY



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MERITAGE

BC VQA

VINEYARD & VINTAGE NOTES

Our vineyards are rooted on sagebrush covered benchland along the Fraser River at the base of the Coast Mountain Range. The sandy soil, arid summers, and moderate winters in Lillooet are perfect for growing premium grapes.

In June 2021, we recorded the highest temperature (48°C) ever. After the heat wave, the weather cooled down with more than average rain throughout the growing season. Our reds enjoyed nice long hanging time, which helped produce rich and bold flavours. Harvest yields were above average. Our more recently planted Red Rock Vineyard helped grow our grape production and moved us closer to our goal to become 100% Lillooet VQA.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Composition: 64% Merlot, 19% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 17% Cabernet Franc

This complex Meritage is made from estate grown grapes along with grapes from a vineyard in Osoyoos. The grapes were hand-harvested, destemmed, crushed, and cold soaked for 4 days before inoculation with select Bordeaux yeast strains. Pump-overs were done every 4 hours to enhance colour and fruit characteristics. Each varietal was vinified, and barrel matured separately for 15 months in oak barrels. Our winemaker carefully crafted the final blend once the wine was removed from barrels.

TASTING NOTES

Expressive and complex, this wine has deep and intensely aromatic notes of dark fruit, including plums, cranberries, and cassis, plus hints of vanilla on the nose. On the palate, this wine is well balanced with a smooth tannin structure and notes of chocolate and violets, followed by a lengthy finish. Pair this full-bodied red wine with grilled meats, or a rich, cheesy lasagna.

TECH SPECS

Alc.: 14.0% pH: 3.73 TA: 6.0 g/l RS: 3.4 g/L Vegan: Yes

Production: 1,835 cs (750ml)

72 cs (375ml)

AVAILABILITY

Winery direct, BC Liquor stores, restaurants, retail stores and grocery stores in BC

SKU: 078113

UPC: 626990121992 Winery retail price: \$31.99



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