

COLUMBIA CREST Reserve

2004 Walter Clore Private Reserve

GROWING SEASON

- ▶ A hot, dry growing season created ideal flavor maturity and promoted an early harvest start.
- ▶ Cool temperatures and intermittent rain in mid-September prompted extended hang time, which allowed the grapes to reach ideal physiologic maturing.
- ▶ The 2004 harvest is characterized by smaller berry and cluster size, with intense flavors, good sugar development and high natural acidity.

VINEYARDS

- ▶ The fruit for the Walter Clore Private Reserve was picked from Columbia Crest's premier vineyard sites. Vineyards located on the Wahluke Slope offer aromatics, texture, and complexity; Cold Creek sites contribute flavor and fruitiness; and Horse Heaven Hills fruit introduces balance and body.
- ▶ The balance between warm daytime temperatures and cooler evenings concentrated aromatics and enhanced complexity.
- ▶ The appellation's low rainfall stressed the vines, yielding concentrated fruit with depth and varietal expression.

VINIFICATION

- ▶ Hand-picked grapes were crushed with 20% to 30% whole berries remaining.
- ▶ Cold soaking on the skins for two days extracted soft tannins and intense color.
- ▶ After the seven-day primary fermentation, lots were pressed, blended and placed into new French oak barrels for malolactic fermentation.
- ▶ The traditional Bordeaux winemaking protocol included barrel aging for two years with barrel-to-barrel racking at three month intervals. Barrels were topped weekly during the first six months, and egg white fining occurred after 18 months.

VINEYARDS ▶ COLUMBIA VALLEY

HARVEST DATE ▶ SEPTEMBER 17, 2004

BLEND ▶ 54% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 46% MERLOT

FERMENTATION ▶ 7 DAYS, CSM, PREMIER CUVÉE,
AND PASTEUR RED YEASTS

ALCOHOL ▶ 14.2%

TOTAL ACIDITY ▶ 0.58G/100ML

PH ▶ 3.68



TASTING NOTES

"A classic Bordeaux-style winemaking protocol enhances the aromatics of earth, coconut, blackberry, and slight mint in this red blend. Fruit and oak are perfectly balanced to yield a very complex chocolate-cherry-blackberry lingering finish. This is a soft yet powerful, complex wine."

Ray Einberger

RAY EINBERGER ▶ COLUMBIA CREST ▶ WINEMAKER