

VANESSA

VINEYARD

Flavour Profile

A rich Cabernet-based cuvée, our 2015 Meritage is a BC powerhouse while being extremely luxurious. Elegantly layered and bursting with fragrant aromas of ground coffee, sage, sweet cherry, chocolate, and currants. Big, bold flavours of blueberry, ripe figs, cocoa, dark cherry, and French vanilla on the palate. This Meritage shows excellent structure and concentrated flavour, leading to lingering, silky tannins that are well balanced and full-bodied. Enjoy with rosemary braised lamb, herbed grilled meats, and black lentils.

Growing Conditions

The 2015 growing season started early. Record heat units were being recorded from June to September. Average Growing Degree Days in Osoyoos were 1,764, but at Vanessa they were significantly higher at 2,049. This resulted in our red grapes being riper with a fuller fruit expression and softer, more rounded tannins. In the last ten years, 2015 was the hottest year ever for Similkameen's Vanessa Vineyard.

Terroir and Microclimate

Located high on a hillside overlooking the Similkameen Valley, Vanessa Vineyard's grapes are cultivated on 75 acres of sloping, well-drained, rocky terrain. The vines grow in rows of rocks, absorbing the day heat and imparting that warmth during the cooler nights. Planted in a west to southwest exposure, the rocky vineyard basks in the afternoon sun. Ideally situated, the vineyard benefits from a long growing season, with low yields of intensely ripe fruit. The unique, stony site produces fruit with complex flavours and minerality that are truly distinctive.

Winemaking

Crafted from only 100% estate grown and hand-picked fruit. The grapes were destemmed and underwent a gentle crush before small-batch fermentation and hand punch down to maximize flavour and extraction. This vintage is almost entirely comprised of free run juice with only a very small quantity of pressed juice added to balance the tannins. Each varietal was individually fermented, and barrel aged for 8 months. The small lots were then carefully blended, and the final assemblage was aged 12 additional months in American and French oak of which 40% were new barrels. Beautiful integration of the soil minerality gives the wine exceptional character and quality.

Carved from stone, fuelled by sun, a vineyard like no other.

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2015 Meritage



Cabernet Franc 42% / Cabernet
Sauvignon 31% / Merlot 27%

Cabernet Sauvignon Clone 169
Bordeaux, France

Merlot Clone 181 Bordeaux, France

Cabernet Franc Clone 331
Pyrénées-Atlantiques, France

Alcohol 14.0%
Residual Sugar 5.7 g/L
Total Acidity 6.5 g/L
pH 3.7
Brix 28
Cases Produced 615
Released 2021
SKU 160895