

# ALEXANDER VALLEY VINEYARDS

## 2013 CYRUS

In 1840 Alexander Valley namesake Cyrus Alexander rode into our valley and called it the "brightest and best spot in the world". He chose this spot to build his home and raise his family, and many years later we would do the same. This wine is our tribute to the man, the region and the very best of the vintage.

In 1995 Hank Wetzel produced the first vintage of CYRUS, today winemaker Kevin Hall carries on the tradition with our 19th release of CYRUS. He has selected nine distinctive lots of estate Bordeaux grapes for this vintage, anchoring the blend with four complex lots of Cabernet Sauvignon



Varietal	Lots	Aging	Aromatics	Traits
Cabernet Sauvignon	4	French & American oak	Chocolate, spice, dark fruits	Dark fruits, big tannins
Cabernet Franc	2	French oak	Floral & dark fruit	Dark chocolate cassis & vanilla
Merlot	1	French & American oak	Slightly floral	Fruit forward, dark fruits
Malbec	1	French oak	Floral & red fruit	Intense inky color, deep flavors
Petit Verdot	1	French oak	Blueberry & vanilla	Dark color, higher acidity

The 2013 growing season was almost identical to 2012. The year began with another dry winter and spring, then throughout the summer we experienced a warm growing season with even temperatures. Our grapes ripened evenly, harvest began earlier than in 2012 and proceeded at a fairly quick pace. While news of the lack of rain dominated conversations, there was an upside to the drought; the grapes had more concentrated flavors than in 2012.

Each lot was fermented and aged separately for 12 months, blended to showcase the vintage and aged for an additional 12 months in French oak barrels to meld the flavors. Additional bottle aging resulted in a seamless blend. The 2013 has dark purple color and intense earthy aromas of cassis, black cherry, chocolate, and cherry along with toasty oak and vanilla. This is a silky wine with flavors of cassis, dark chocolate, dark fruits and chocolate covered cherries. The 2013 CYRUS boasts smooth texture, excellent balance and a long structured finish.

- Accolades:**
- 2013: 93 points** - *Wine Advocate*
  - 2013: 91 points** - *Decanter World Wine Awards*
  - 2013: 90 points** - *Wine Enthusiast*
  - 2013: 90 points & Gold Medal** - *San Francisco International Wine Competition*
  - 2013: 90 points & Gold Medal** - *Sommelier Challenge*

**Profile:**

- **Elegant, expressive**
- **Aromatic, rich and concentrated**

### About Alexander Valley Vineyards:

Over the last decade we have replanted our vineyards with reduced spacing resulting in more rows per acre and closer spacing per vine. On some sites we have more than doubled the plants in these high density vineyards. These tightly spaced vines produce around 10-12 pounds of grapes per vine. This low yield results in great complexity in the glass, while more vines per acre is one of the keys to great value in our bottles. So the next time you hear someone quoting tons per acre, be sure to ask them how many vines are producing that ton and compute the pounds per vine.

### Technical Data:

**Grapes:** 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Cabernet Franc, 7% Merlot, 5% Malbec, 4% Petit Verdot

**Harvest:** September 18 - October 15, 2013

**Closure:** Cork

**Alcohol:** 14.3% **pH:** 3.58 **TA:** 6.2 g/L

**UPC:** 0-85798-11062-9 750ml



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