

Chateau Ste Michelle

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

COLUMBIA VALLEY

2009

TASTING NOTES

"Our goal with the Columbia Valley Cabernet is to highlight concentrated Washington red fruit in an accessible style. This is our inviting Cab with plenty of complexity and structure with silky tannins. It's also very versatile with food--try it with beef, pork or pasta."

Bob Bertheau

BOB BERTHEAU, HEAD WINEMAKER

VINTAGE

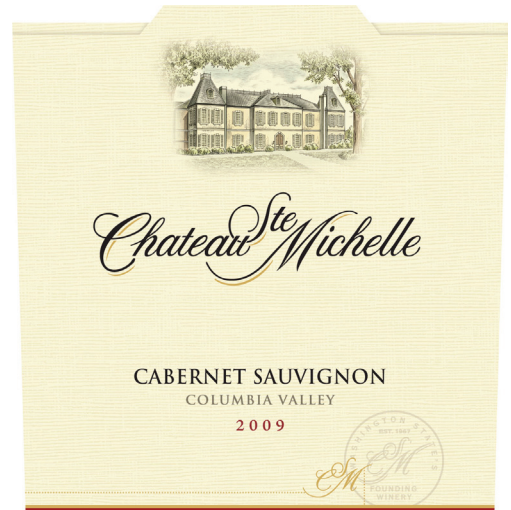
- The 2009 growing season was ideal with dry, warm weather and lots of sunshine.
- The season started a week late in blooming, but caught up as the perfect ripening weather lasted through September.
- The weather was not too hot, which allowed grapes to retain their natural acidity.

VINEYARDS

- Sourced from Columbia Valley vineyards in eastern Washington including our Cold Creek, Canoe Ridge Estate and Indian Wells vineyards.
- Columbia Valley vineyards lie in the rain shadow of the Cascade Mountains and receive just 6-8 inches of rainfall annually.
- Warm, sunny days and cool evening temperatures create ideal conditions for intense aroma and flavor development in the ripening grapes.
- Sandy soils with low fertility and low water-holding capacity enable precise control of vine growth.

WINEMAKING

- Ripe grapes were destemmed and inoculated with various strains of yeast to maximize complexity.
- Gentle pumpovers during fermentation were used to extract color and flavor and produce soft, supple tannins.
- Aged 16 months in American and French oak, 31% new.



TECHNICAL DATA

Total acidity	0.54g/100ml
ph	3.86
Alcohol	13.5%
Blend	83% Cabernet Sauvignon
	9% Merlot
	3% Syrah
	2% Malbec
	2% Cabernet Franc
	1% Petit Verdot

FOOD PAIRING

Foods	bleu cheese, duck, beef, veal, dark chocolate
Herbs	mustard, paprika, rosemary, thyme
Spice	allspice, cloves, ginger, mace, nutmeg



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WASHINGTON STATE'S FOUNDING WINERY

