

CANOE RIDGE VINEYARD

THE EXPLORER

2016 | RED BLEND

AS LEGEND HAS IT, explorers Lewis and Clark noticed a ridge resembling an overturned canoe on their Columbia River journey, inspiring our Canoe Ridge Vineyard name. Established in 1989, Canoe Ridge Vineyard is one of Washington State's leading wineries, offering true varietal character made for everyday enjoyment. From our estate vineyard in the Horse Heaven Hills to the surrounding Columbia Valley, winemaker Bill Murray selects from the very best grapes to create each varietal offering.



ABOUT THE EXPLORER

For the wine enthusiast with a true Northwest taste for adventure, The Explorer by Canoe Ridge Vineyard reflects the natural beauty and terroir of our Horse Heaven Hills vineyard overlooking the Columbia River.

TASTING NOTE

Lovely aromas of ripe blackberry and plum with refined oak notes of vanilla and clove spice. The rich fruit carries through on the palate with jammy flavors of cherry and black fruit preserves. Layers of complexity and soft tannins allow this wine to linger pleasantly on the palate with a long finish.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE

The 2016 growing season started quickly with warm temperatures across Washington, encouraging vigorous vine development. By late June, however, temperatures cooled considerably, creating optimal growing conditions for fruit maturation. In late summer, rain came to the vineyard and helped ease vine stress, while the vineyard teams worked tirelessly to ensure the canopies and fruit clusters would produce top quality grapes. Early ripening red varietals are well-developed with bright fruit notes. Longer-ripening red varietals, like Cabernet Sauvignon, will show more savory characteristics than in years past, and should make for cellar-worthy wines.

ACCOLADES

2015 Best Buy, *Wine & Spirits* | **91 points**, *Wine Spectator*

APPELLATION

Horse Heaven Hills

VINEYARDS

62% Canoe Ridge Vineyard,
38% Alder Ridge Vineyard

VARIETY PERCENTAGE

38% Merlot, 23% Cabernet
Sauvignon, 21% Syrah, 16%
Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot

HARVEST DATE

September and October 2016

OAK

French 40% new oak, 60% 2nd
and 3rd year oak

AGED

2 years

TA

5.83 g/l

PH

3.7

ALC

14.40%