



2013 THE VELVET DEVIL MERLOT

True to its name, velvety. Complex and just-so-right flavors, pipe tobacco, Bing cherry, dried rose petals with a blend of subtle herbs and spice. Real wine. Real Merlot.

BLEND

99% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Sauvignon

APPELLATION

Columbia Valley

PRODUCTION

Whole Berry Fermentation
Yeast: Partially Native
30% New French Oak
10 Months Barrel-Aged on Lees

WINE ANALYSIS

5.0 grams/L Total Acidity
3.84 pH
13.5% Alcohol

UPC

184745000195

CURRENT & PAST SCORES

89 points, *Wine Spectator*
“Top 100 Value Wines”

“Fresh, vivid and appealing, with floral overtones around a polished core of currant and cranberry flavors, lingering deftly. Drink now through 2019.”

87 points, *Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate*

“Another good value that will certainly deliver for mid-week drinking, the 2013 Charles Smith The Velvet Devil Merlot has lots of plummy fruit, cedary spice and hints of wild herbs in a medium-bodied, deliciously quaffable package. It’s well-made, easy-drinking and best consumed over the coming year or two.”

VINEYARDS

The vineyards we work with are farmed using the most up to date sustainable practices. Upland: Located in the Snipes Mountain AVA in the heart of the Yakima Valley. With slopes facing in all four cardinal directions and an elevation that ranges from 750 to 1300 feet, Upland is some of the oldest and most diverse soils in the state - ancient, rocky soils mostly un-touched by the Missoula floods.

Sundance: One of the oldest vineyards on the Wahluke Slope, planted in 1997. The site is topsoil over gravel, sand and broken down basalt with more caliche than other sites in the Wahluke. The vineyard, because of its aspect, is also a later ripening site allowing for great concentration.

Art Den Hoed: 250 acres over the south slope of the Rattlesnake Mountains in the Yakima AVA at 1300 feet elevation. The excellent air drainage and higher elevation work to preserve the natural acids in the grapes while flavors mature.

Roza Hills: The majority of the vineyard is planted in soil called the Moxee Series and consists of shallow, well drained soils of wind blown loess over limestone with a bedrock of volcanic rock. It is slightly alkaline and soil depth ranges from 1’ to 2’ before hitting the limestone.

