

2016 Champoux Vineyard Red Wine

**ANDREW
WILL**

We make the Champoux blend not just because we are such big fans of the vineyard, but because of the way that Merlot and Cabernet Franc shine from this site. This wine is the alter ego to Sorella. We almost always craft this wine with a nod towards a majority Cab Franc or Merlot in this case. This wine allows us to show the full range of Champoux Vineyard.

The 2016 Vintage in Washington State started out quick during the spring, but in early June the weather returned to normal and thus lead to a start date of September 12th for picking. Harvest continued until October 25th with Cabernet Sauvignon from Two Blondes vineyard coming in. Right away we saw the high potential of the fruit and how this vintage would end up being another great vintage for us.

Reviews:

(97 Points)...One of the finest examples of this cuvée I've tasted is the 2016 Champoux Vineyard, which comes from one of the top terroirs in the state and is in the slightly cooler Horse Heaven Hills AVA. Young, full-bodied, and primordial, it has incredible potential but is going to need 4-5 years of bottle age. Thrilling notes of blueberries, cassis, lead pencil shavings, and bouquet garni all define the bouquet and it has remarkable purity and elegance. It picks up more floral and high-toned notes with time in the glass and is a brilliant bottle of wine that will keep for 2-3 decades. Jeb Dunnuck - Jebdunnuck.com

(94+ Points)...Opens with a rich and ripe expression of dark, dusty fruit interlaced with supporting oak tones on the nose. Medium to full-bodied in the mouth, dark cherry, black plum and cassis flood the palate with a structured focus and mineral tension.... The wine ends with a long, complex finish—worth your time and money. Anthony Muller – Wine Advocate

Composition: 50% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Cabernet Franc

Alcohol: 15.1%

Vinification: Indigenous yeasts, fermentation in stainless steel tanks using a Pulseair for cap management, no filtering, no fining, minimal SO₂

Vineyard: Champoux (~130 acres total, sustainable farming, handpicked fruit, Vineyard Manager = Dan Nicholas)

AVA: Horse Heaven Hills, Washington State, USA

Average Age of Vines: 40 Years

Time in barrels: 18 months (25% New French Oak, 75% Neutral French Oak)

Bottling Date: May 2018

Release Date: February 2021

Total Production: 603.5 Cases

