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## 2016 Radicle Vine Cabernet Franc

Slide Mountain [99%], Red Willow [1%], Columbia Valley AVA

## WINEMAKER NOTE

In botany, a "radicle" is the earliest emerging root to develop from a seed, sending itself into the ground to create strength and take nourishment from the soil so that the plant will grow strong and spread its leaves. These wines are easy to enjoy, accessibly fruit forward, and suitable for both off-the-cuff quaffing, or as a simple adjunct to a meal. Sourced from three vineyard sites in the Columbia Valley, this Merlot based "Eastern Washington Bordeaux Blend" (Classic Bordeaux varietals with a touch of Syrah) is a nod to the superb drinkability of the 2016 vintage. Harvested in multiple picks throughout the second and third week in September from one of the warmest vintages on record, the grapes for this Cab Franc based blend utilizes the power and fruit of Syrah to add weight, color and fruit to an earthy herbaceous canvas of delicious and nuanced Cabernet Franc. This combination creates a tranquility and harmony of aromatics and flavors that is not easily achieved in other common blends.

VARIETALS: Cabernet Franc (78%), Syrah (21%), Merlot (1%)

PRODUCTION: 562 cases

ALCOHOL: 14.9%

## **PROFILE**

Purple hues of boysenberry and mulberry meets maroon and dark sienna at its core. Wafting aromatics of dried herbs and tobacco leaf dominate subtle notes of blue fruits and vanilla. The compacted clay soils and high elevation northern exposure acts as a balance to the traditionally warm Yakima Valley vintages, as flavors of red fruits and dried thyme flow into a juicy lingering finish. Though Cab Franc traditionally has the weight and tannins for medium to long term aging, the 2016 Radicle Vine Cabernet Franc is crafted as an everyday drinking table wine, built for those that are looking for something to quaff without guilt on any particular Tuesday.

PAIRING: Stuffed poblano peppers, pizza with sausage and fennel, pork loin, duck or rabbit.