



## 2009 CADARETTA WINDTHROW

It's an exciting time in Washington State: grape growers are branching out and experimenting with lesser-known grape varieties from more obscure origins. For the first time, grapes like Grenache, Mourvedre, Counoise, and Syrah are available from vineyard sites that are over ten years old and fully mature.

### THE GRAPES AND VINTAGE

The three grape varieties in Windthrow come from four different vineyards in three growing areas. We searched for the best vineyard sites to find the right soils and optimum sun and wind exposure to maximize the potential of each grape variety. The 2009 Washington summer was one of the warmest on record, but temperatures cooled in September allowing plenty of hang time for flavor development. All of our grapes had been harvested when an October 11 frost essentially shut down the vines and brought an end to the vintage. Vineyard yields remained naturally low, with average yields around 2.4 tons/acre. Ultimately, the vintage lent itself to making exactly the sort of wine we wanted: complex, elegant, and expressive.

### THE WINE

Cadaretta Windthrow is our showcase for red Rhone varietals: Syrah, Mourvedre and Grenache. The wine expresses the personalities of each of the grapes in a harmonious blend with plenty of flavor and texture. Syrah comprises 65% of the finished wine, contributing a deep and juicy structure, with earthy blackberry and roasted game flavors. The Mourvedre (23%) adds black pepper aromas, raspberry fruit, and racy acidity that lifts the mouthfeel. The Grenache (12%) lends juicy texture and weight to the blend, with distinct wild strawberry flavors. The final blend is 65% Syrah, 23% Mourvedre and 12% Grenache. The finished wine initially shows effusive fruit, giving way to savory and peppery undertones. Red fruits and florals linger over a background of dark earth and olive notes. Flavors are intense, but delicate in texture, showing supple weight with tremendous concentration. The wine develops dramatically in the glass over time.

**APPELLATION:** Columbia Valley

**VINEYARDS:**

Pepper Bridge, Walla Walla (Syrah)  
 Stone Tree, Wahluke Slope (Syrah)  
 Alder Ridge Vineyard, Horse Heaven Hills  
 (Mourvedre and Grenache)

**COOPERAGE:** 13% new oak: 50% French oak,  
 25% Hungarian, 25% American

**TOTAL ACIDITY:** 5.7g/L **pH:** 3.72

**ALCOHOL:** 14.2%

**BOTTLING DATE:** August, 2011

**PRODUCTION:** 558 bottles, packed 6 x 750ml

MIDDLETON  
 FAMILY WINES

