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The Kiona Vineyards Old Block Cabernet Sauvignon 2014 is made, according to the producer, from the oldest vines on Washington's Red Mountain (the Kiona Estate Vineyard was planted in 1975). The appellation encompasses a little more than 4,000 acres in the south-central part of the state. According to the appellation's web site, "this is the smallest, warmest wine-grape growing region in Washington."

But its reputation has spread well beyond its relatively diminutive size: The wines of the Red Mountain AVA have managed to find a serious fan base among wine professionals in recent years, and with good reason: Like the best wines from around the world, they have a real sense of place, and an expressiveness that, in my experience, is both approachable at a young age and more complex as they mature.

This one is a great example of that. With its perfumed nose lifted with the scent of lilacs and violets, kirsch and chocolate ganache, and its generous, open-knit palate practically dripping with flavors of sweet fruit and tamarind spiced up with cardamom, all spice, and vanilla, this one is awfully difficult to keep from enjoying right now, but it'll easily continue to evolve in the cellar for another 10 years or more. It's a fantastic effort from a producer that's been perfecting their work for decades, and a testament to the exciting things that are happening in Red Mountain.

- Brian Freedman