



COUGAR COLLECTOR'S SERIES

COUGAR VII

HORSE HEAVEN HILLS

2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON



REININGER

WALLA WALLA WINERY

TASTING NOTE

Any AIR RAID quarterback would be proud to sling this WSU Cougar VII Cabernet Sauvignon, dark-fruit cherry bomb, by REININGER. Intense scents of macerated black cherries, plum, blackberry and black currant line up at scrimmage with judicious oak and floral notes at wideouts. The snap delivers a balanced attack revealing an opulent texture, velvety tannins with vaulting acidity that elevates the brutish cherry, red-plum and dash of nimble cassis. Elegant floral-oak spice waltzes in perfect harmony, from goal line to goal line, with sumptuous black-cherry high stepping it to the house.

ABOUT THE 2018 VINTAGE

2018 graced the Horse Heaven Hills with an ideal growing season. A cool spring followed by hot summer months, preceded moderate daytime fall temperatures with cool nights. This scenario created a wonderful hurry up and wait harvest that delivered small berries, moderate yields, and beautifully balanced fruit with intense fruit character.

ABOUT THE AVA

Located in south-central Washington State, the Horse Heaven Hills AVA is known for its warm site vineyards that are cooled by up-river winds, lending tannic complexity to full flavored wines of all varieties. Established in 2005, this AVA comprises approximately 17,000 acres that lie along the Columbia River and makes up about 25% of Washington's total grape production.

ABOUT THE VINEYARDS

The WSU Cougar VII is primarily sourced from Phinny Hill Vineyard, one of the most picturesque spots in the Horse Heaven Hills, overlooking Champoux Vineyard and the Columbia River. Reininger is one of the first wineries to source fruit from Phinny Hill. This 100-acre vineyard sits atop a sun-drenched hill of rare cobble-filled soils left over from the Missoula Floods during the last Ice Age. The rocky soils and eastern-facing slopes provide great soil and air drainage for the vines, especially the predominantly planted Bordeaux grape varieties. The vines are east-facing, and receive plenty of heat and good hangtime.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

VARIETY PERCENTAGE 95% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot

VINEYARD 90% Phinny Hill, 5% XL, 5% Stillwater Creek

AGING 71% French, 19% American, 10% Russian

TA: 6.2 g/L

pH: 3.86

Alc. 14.5%

REININGER WINERY

REININGER Winery, located in the heart of the Walla Walla Valley, specializes in crafting elegant and finely structured wines from hand-harvested, ultra premium grapes. From our first release in 1997, REININGER wines have possessed a unique quality derived from the winemaker's awareness of and passion for the natural elements that make great wines.

www.reiningerwinery.com