

BLASTED CHURCH™

BLASTED CHURCH MERLOT 2008

Appellation: Okanagan Valley (VQA)

HARVEST NOTES

The warm summer and naturally low crop yields of 2008 helped ensure that our reds reached optimum maturity. Careful leaf removal throughout the season helped to maximize colour and flavour development. Close attention was paid to the maturing fruit, to not only ensure that sugars and ripe flavours were developing, but that tannins were maturing, ensuring a velvety full bodied texture in the finished wine. Our Merlot is 100% estate grown, and was harvested during the cooler days of mid-October.

WINEMAKING

The Merlot was handpicked and then sorted whole cluster and whole berry before being transferred to tank. Once in tank the whole berries were left to macerate for 4-7 days. During this period the cap was punched down by hand twice a day. When the fruit completed its cold soak, the must was warmed and inoculated with a specific yeasts strain. Fermentation lasted a further 10-14 days. After fermentation was completed the must was kept warm and the cap was allowed to sink. This process allowed the tannins to polymerize and soften before the Merlot was pressed off and racked into barrel. The free run and pressings were kept separate and aged in barrel where the wine underwent malo-lactic fermentation and was aged for 14 months. The wine was racked and blended before it went through our crossflow filter prior to bottling.

WINEMAKER'S NOTE

Colour: Crimson.

Bouquet: Cherry, milk chocolate, nutmeg and a hint of truffles.

Palate: Well-structured wine with Merlot's typically soft chalky tannins, modest intensity and wonderful length.

Food Pairings: Best enjoyed with steak, tomato based pasta dishes, salads with vinaigrette, and Mexican fare.

Varietal Profile

100% Merlot

Total acidity:	6.4g/L
Final pH:	3.77
Residual Sugar:	1.5g/L
Alcohol:	14.8%
Cases Produced:	665
CSPC:	+37531

Blasted Church Wines are available in BC through our winery direct order desk.

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