

2005 Grand Reve Collaboration Series I

The 2005 Collaboration I is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, and Petit Verdot aged for 32 months in 70% new French oak. It offers up an impressive bouquet of wood smoke, mineral, clove, sage, black currant, and blackberry. On the palate it is smooth-textured, elegant, very concentrated, layered, and savory. Red Mountain is known for its tannin, but here it is well under control, and the wine's impeccable balance suggests a lengthy evolution for this bold effort. It will offer a drinking window extending from 2015 to 2030. Grand Reve Vintners is a collaboration between Paul McBride and Ryan Johnson to grow grapes and produce wine focused on the Red Mountain AVA. They are planting the first hillside vineyard in Red Mountain on the slopes above Col Solare at 955 to 1230 feet of elevation. The winemaking is in the hands of five top local winemakers, Ben Smith (Collaboration...

- Jay S Miller (October, 2009)