



## 2011 Collaboration Series VI

### Overview

Force Majeure Vineyards produces small quantities of Bordeaux- and Rhone-based wines from Eastern Washington's celebrated Red Mountain AVA. Launched by Paul and Susan McBride in 2004 under the name Grand Reve Vintners, the winery has been making highly-acclaimed, terroir-driven wines under the Force Majeure moniker since the 2009 vintage. The winery achieved critical praise for its Collaboration Series that featured fruit from the iconic Ciel de Cheval vineyard vinified by some of Washington's top winemakers. In 2010 Force Majeure began producing wine from their Estate Vineyard, a steep, rocky site on the upper slopes of Red Mountain. In 2014, the winery hired Todd Alexander - a talented winemaker who had previously worked at Napa Valley's Bryant Family Vineyard - to serve as head winemaker and general manager.



### Vineyard and Winemaking

Winemaker James Mantone was influenced by the wines of both the Southern Rhone Valley and Australia when he created our 2011 Collaboration Series VI. This heady red blend is composed of Mourvedre (56%), Syrah (38%) and Grenache (6%) grown at the renowned Ciel du Cheval vineyard on Red Mountain. It was fermented in concrete tanks and aged in large puncheons to preserve the character of the fruit.

### Tasting Notes

Our 2011 Collaboration Series VI offers a unique interpretation of the Ciel du Cheval vineyard. The highlights include ripe berries, plums, earth and minerals. The flavors are lush, yet invigorating thanks to the ample acids and dusty tannins. Hedonistic and approachable, this wine was custom built for barbecued pork, lamb or steak.

### Technical Data

Blend	56% Mourvedre, 38% Syrah, 6% Grenache
AVA	Red Mountain
Vineyard	Ciel du Cheval
Cooperage	Concrete fermentation, 500 L French oak puncheon
Winemaker	James Mantone
Alcohol	14.8%
Cases	280
Website	fm-wine.com