



# FORCE *Majeure*

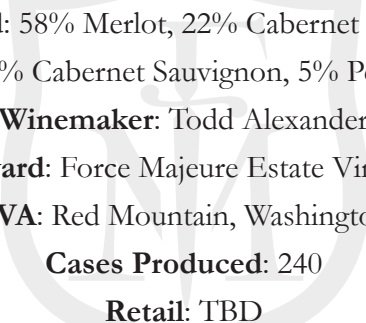
## 2014 FORCE MAJEURE ÉPINETTE

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Our new Right-bank Bordeaux inspired blend, called “Épinette,” was named after an avenue in Libourne that leads to Pomerol and Saint-Émilion. “Épinette” is also the name of a musical instrument akin to a piano, as well as a word for pine tree, which is a fitting nod to our home in Washington state. The wine spent 22 months in 85% new French oak after a long maceration and fermentation in concrete and stainless steel vats. The blend will change each vintage, either being dominated by Merlot or Cabernet Franc, but in 2014 it is driven by Merlot grown in deep, loamy soils found in the middle of our vineyard. Bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

“Focusing on Merlot and the estate’s take on a Right Bank Bordeaux, the 2014 Épinette is 58% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Franc and the rest Petit Verdot that was brought up all in barrel. Offering lots of black cherry, plum, chocolate and gravel-like characteristics, this big, rich, chewy effort has good acidity and enough tannin to warrant short-term cellaring.”

(93-95) points, Jeb Dunnuck, *The Wine Advocate*



**Blend:** 58% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Franc,  
15% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petit Verdot  
**Winemaker:** Todd Alexander  
**Vineyard:** Force Majeure Estate Vineyard  
**AVA:** Red Mountain, Washington  
**Cases Produced:** 240  
**Retail:** TBD