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# Latah Creek

## WINE CELLARS

Columbia Valley

# MONARCH RED

## NO. 2

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### BACKGROUND

Father/daughter winemaking team, Mike and Natalie started the Monarch Reserve Red program in 2008, with the first release in April 2010. The idea was to give Natalie an opportunity to learn an individual grape intimately, on a small-scale level. She also wanted to change Latah Creek's current reputation as a sweet wine only producer. "My dad has received so many awards and Wine Spectator top 100 wines recognitions for his red wines. I wanted to remind everyone that we are still here producing amazing, high-quality red wines."

### VARIETAL BLEND

34% 2011 Merlot, 24% 2011 Tempranillo, 24% 2011 Malbec, 18% 2010 Syrah

### WINEMAKING

Every vintage of Monarch Red is a little different in varietal makeup due to harvest amounts, final wine production amounts, and more. Natalie's favorite part of winemaking is blending. This is an art form to her. For this wine, she started off with equal parts of each wine. She found the Syrah to be too powerful, so she decreased that percentage of that. The Merlot, with its fantastic varietal berry flavors, was her favorite, so it made sense to increase it. After a few more tweaks, she had her blend.

### ANALYSIS

Alc.: 13.5%

Bottled: August 9, 2013 | 682 cases | Released: February 2014

### WINEMAKERS

Mike Conway and Natalie Conway-Barnes

### TASTING NOTES

The varietal characteristics of these 4 grapes meld together perfectly to create a deep red, intensely fruity, full-bodied wine that is ready to drink now, but will only get better with age. Hints of toasty oak, red berries, cassis, and plum immediately greet your nose. Once in your mouth, raspberry, Bing cherries, and ripe plum flavors burst forth while soft undertones of cigar tobacco, toasty oak, and red fruit and tannin linger.

### FOOD PAIRING

Enjoy this wine with grilled meats, robust foods, or heavy pasta dishes, such as Ellena's Tuscan Spaghetti alla Puttanesca recipe in her latest cookbook.

### ACCOLADES

Bronze, Savor NW Wine Awards 2014

Silver, Great Northwest Wine Competition 2014

Gold, Seattle Wine Awards 2014

Outstanding - Great Northwest Wine July 2014

Double Gold, Wine Press NW Platinum Judging 2014

Editor's Choice - Excellent, Washington Tasting Room Magazine Aug 2015

**Love at First Sip. Since 1982.**

Latah Creek Wine Cellars

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