



FAMILY WINERY

2012 *Père de Famille*, Cabernet Sauvignon

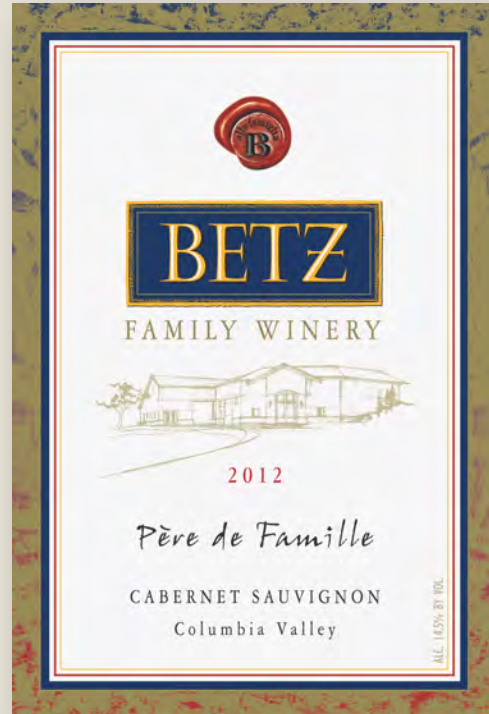
The 2012 Vintage---Finally

After two years of challenging harvests, the Columbia Valley was finally blessed with an easy one. Not only easy, but stunning. Yes, we love the 2010s and 2011s, but getting to the end result was challenging because of cooler-than-normal growing season temperatures, but 2012 was brilliant right from the start. A moderate spring and gently building summer heat to a hot August ensured above average heat accumulation for the year. This was followed by a long gentle autumn creating predictable and satisfying results. The wines are generous, pure and expressive, reminding me of the fleshiness of the 1998s and the clarity of the 2007s.

This initial question raised by this vintage of Pere de Famille is how this wine, with such a depth of color, texture and weight of the New World retains its aromatic complexity and balance of the Old World. The answer isn't precise, but is a reflection of a remarkable Columbia Valley vintage, plus small changes in maturation and the varietal concentration of the final blend. Its inky purple color, muscular structure and plush texture all point to its New World origins. But the aromas of pure, layered black fruits, graphite, crushed rock and lavender (think St. Julien?) lead me back to the Old World.

The 2012 Père de Famille has the highest level (90%) of Cabernet Sauvignon that we've ever used in this wine. Add to that the high concentration of Red Mountain grapes (84%), deep and structured, and it yields a wine as generous as any Cabernet we've made. It showed such density in barrel that we added three months barrel aging to resolve the tannins and body. It's weighty and yet balanced, fleshy yet fine grained, powerful yet polished. And unabashedly Cabernet Sauvignon, with its black currants, anise/thyme, savory mouth feel and dusty finish.

- 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6 % Merlot
4% Petit Verdot
- 65% New French Oak, 35% One Fill
French Oak



Its dimension and precision indicate long aging ability, but you might be tempted far earlier.

CURRENT RATINGS:

Robert Parker, *The Wine Advocate* – 93-95 (barrel tasting)
“More Cabernet Sauvignon-dominated, the 2012 Pere de Famille incorporates 6% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot. Sporting the standard Bob Betz preferred inky-purple color, this knockout effort has masculine, earthy notes of black currants, smoke, graphite, crushed rock and dusty soil to go with a full-bodied, powerful and focused feel on the palate. Give it 4-5 years in the cellar and enjoy over the following decade or two.” **Jeb Dunnuck**

- Serve cool, 60-62°F. Best from 2015 through 2023+

