

BETZ

FAMILY WINERY

2014 Cuvée Frangin

“The Little Brother’s Blend”

This year’s Cuvée Frangin offers a strong introduction to the 2014 vintage. Cut from the same cloth as our flagship wines, the Cuvée Frangin shares the vibrant fruit, silky texture, and sense of freshness that has us all excited about the vintage. 2014 marks the third vintage of the Cuvée Frangin.

The concept for Cuvée Frangin came to life in 2012, during our annual blending trials as an answer to the perennial question “how do we push quality further?” Looking at our efforts in the vineyard and cellar, we made the decision to raise the bar for the quality and character needed to make it into our final blends, performing a much more stringent barrel selection than we ever had before. We then utilized these barrels that had historically found a home in our premium wines to create Cuvée Frangin. Bordeaux and Rhone grape varieties are both on the table, and several different vineyards contribute to the blend.

The 2014 Cuvée Frangin shares the deep color and rich texture our flagship wines. The palate offers plush fruit flavors, and this is where the Rhone varietals show their presence. Crisp acidity, and velvety tannins support flavors of plum, pomegranate, and strawberry. The addition of new vineyard blocks in Walla Walla have helped to round out the texture of this wine. Syrah grapes from the Rocks District add weight and soften the structure. Cabernet lends aromatics of earth and dried herbs.



92 Points Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate

“First made in 2012, the entry level 2014 Cuvée Frangin is the result of the estate focus on quality, where they cut the yields for all of their top cuvees back by 30%; all of that newly declassified juice goes into this cuvee. A great introduction into the quality of the estate, with lots of ripe, sexy black fruits, brambly herbs and chocolate, it’s medium to full-bodied, has good freshness, and shows hints of earth and truffle with time in the glass. It will keep through 2024 easily, although there’s absolutely no need to delay gratification either.

While there’s a long history of terrific wines from this estate, I think they’ve hit another level in the past few vintages, and these latest releases show a purity, elegance and textural quality not found in early bottlings. I’m sure this is in part due to the creation of a second wine, and even a stricter selection for all of the top cuvees. In short, don’t miss a chance to try these wines.”

– Jeb Dunnuck

Varietal Components:

- Cabernet Sauvignon
- Merlot
- Petit Verdot
- Syrah

AVA and Vineyard Components:

- Yakima Valley
- Red Mountain
- Horse Heaven Hills
- Snipes Mountain

Barrel Components:

- 100% French Oak
- 30% New
- 70% One fill

Drinkability: Now through 2020+

