Winemaker: Anne Hubatch + Frédérique Vion
Generation: 1st

WAY OUT WEST

Red Blend Columbia Valley AVA

Bright, honest, and earth-driven, this red blend combines the berry-driven vibrancy of Washington State Merlot with the sensibility of its European winemaker. French-born Frédérique Vion invests her wine with plenty of tension - including enough acidic backbone to make the ample, south-facing fruit sing. From vines grown in a stark and magnificent landscape, including towering cliffs near the Columbia River and remote, high desert sagebrush.

WINEMAKER BIOGRAPHY

Created by and for folks who love a clean, honest, cool climate approach to their traditional West Coast wines. With an emphasis on taut, juicy reds and crisp, unoaked whites, Way Out West pays tribute to some of the NW's best-loved AVAs. To protect the environment, Way Out West does not use foil capsules or any excess packaging.

ENOLOGIST

Anne Hubatch + Frédérique Vion

TASTING NOTES

Color	Crushed mulberry
Nose	Cherry and marionberry with a high desert, dusty sage note
Palate	Bright, generous fruit backed by an ample structure
Finish	Fresh and lingering

VINEYARD & VINIFICATION

	12
Vineyard Location	Columbia Valley
Varietals List	92% Merlot 7% Malbec 1% Cabernet Sauvignon
Farming Practices	Certified sustainable WA
Elevation	175-200 m
Soils	Silty loam
Maturation Summary	In medium toast French barrels for 6 months and bottled for 6 months
Acidity	4.8 g/liter
Residual Sugar	0.3 g/liter
Annual Production	4,800 bottles

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WAY OUT WEST

REGION

COLUMBIA VALLEY

With a vast footprint of over 60,000 planted acres (making it one of the nation's largest AVA's and 30% bigger than Napa Valley) the Columbia Valley represents a decisive 99% of wine made in Washington State. Located in a large rain shadow east of the Cascade Mountains, this large terrain only receives 6-9 inches of precipitation per year on average, along with 300 days of sun (exceeding Napa once again by about 40 days). The valley system, complete with its dramatic river gorges and dry, rolling hills, was created in large part by a series of Ice Age floods... and further influenced by ancient volcanoes, resulting in a phylloxera-resistant mixture of silt, sand, and basalt-based soils throughout. Established in 1984, the Columbia Valley AVA has since been sub-divided, and contains 12 other recognized growing zones, including Horse Heaven Hills, Red Mountain, Walla Walla Valley and Yakima Valley. Known for its elegant, aromatic wines with pure, fruit-driven flavors and bright, balanced acidity, the Columbia Valley produces 60% reds (notably Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Syrah) with Chardonnay and Riesling also widely planted.

WAY OUT WEST

Alongside key women winemakers who have staked their claim in the Pacific Northwest, Way Out West began with the desire to offer Washington and Oregon wines crafted with a deft hand and a fresh, local sensibility. Spearheading the Pinot Noir project, for example, is artisan producer Anne Hubatch, founder of Helioterra Wines in Portland, OR, and well-known for her hard-working, hands-on approach to her craft. "She's a force of nature" says Way Out West curator Jeff Cox. "She gets up in the morning and gets it done!" Early on, Anne earned a degree in Geology and Environmental Studies, knowing that her future career would be tied to the outdoors and the land. To this day, her terroir-driven style reflects that same deep connection. For the Way Out West Pinot Noir, grapes are sourced in the Willamette Valley AVA, which "is a true place, a whole environment... not just a production address."

Just over the Columbia River, French-born winemaker Frédérique Vion is the woman behind Way Out West's Washington Red Blend and Sauvignon Blanc. A native of Provence, Frédérique grew up with a great love for rosé... but has gone on to master winemaking in all its iterations. After earning a degree in agronomy from Perpignan University and a master's in winemaking and viticulture at Toulouse University, she worked first in the Haut-Médoc region of France (near Bordeaux), then in Australia. Ultimately, her world tour led her to the Pacific NW, where she served as winemaker and cellar master for Sagelands Vineyards in eastern Washington for many years. Then, in 2012, she found a home at the family-owned Four Feathers Wine Services. There, as Head Winemaker, she oversees a vast array of projects based on Washington wines and spanning the whole of the Columbia Valley.