



# BRIAN CARTER CELLARS

## 2009 LE COURSIER

(French for 'the steed')

**Bordeaux-Style Red Blend**

Columbia Valley AVA

This "right bank" Bordeaux-style blend was crafted using carefully selected lots of Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Malbec and Petit Verdot from select Washington vineyards. Each of these grape varieties possesses a unique character; yet, when blended in the right proportions, they harmonize into one essential composition as each makes its distinctive contribution to the whole.

This wine embodies the strength, power and grace of **Le Coursier**, (French for 'the steed'). Richly dark in color the aroma brings forth blackberry, chocolate, cassis cedar and spice. Mouth-filling flavors show well integrated tannins and a long finish. Serve with a select piece of medium rare (my preference) red meat.

Each year this Bordeaux-Style Blend is carefully blended to maximize the best attributes of the vintage. In 2009 I used the following sources and varieties:

**Merlot** 54%

Stone Tree Vineyard, Wahluke Slope (24%)  
Solstice Vineyard, Yakima Valley (18%)  
Olsen Vineyard, Yakima Valley (12%)

**Cabernet Sauvignon** 18%

Solstice Vineyards, Yakima Valley (7%)  
Klipsun Vineyard, Red Mountain (5%)  
Stone Tree Vineyards, Wahluke Slope (4%)  
E&E Shaw Vineyard, Red Mountain (2%)

**Cabernet Franc** 16%

Solstice Vineyards, Yakima Valley (12%)  
Chandler Reach, Yakima Valley (4%)

**Malbec** 8%

Stone Tree Vineyards, Wahluke Slope

**Petit Verdot** 4%

Elerding Vineyards, Yakima Valley (2%)  
Stone Tree Vineyard, Wahluke Slope (2%)

### Oak Aging

22 months in French & European oak, 40% new & 60% used (1-4 years)

### Analysis at Harvest

Harvest Dates: 9/18 thru 10/17/2009

Average Brix 25.6  
Average TA 0.48%  
Average pH 3.45

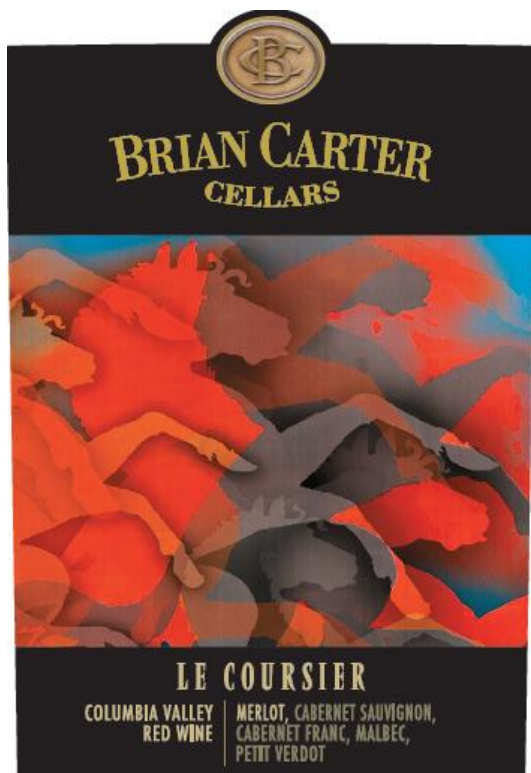
### Analysis at Bottling

Bottling Date: 7-13-11

Residual Sugar 0.1%  
TA (%) 0.59%  
pH 3.64  
Alcohol 14.0%

**Production** 244 cases

**Release Date** May 3, 2013



**Brian D. Carter**  
Winemaker

*"A Passion for the Art of Blending"*

[www.briancartercellars.com](http://www.briancartercellars.com)