



# The Judge

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Vintage: 2014

Price 750ml: \$45.00 (BC)

Price 1.5 L: \$110 (BC)

Availability 750ml: Winery, Bench Club, and select fine dining establishments in B.C.

Availability 1.5 L: Winery only

CSPC 750ml: 133124 1.5 L 65714

UPC 750ml: 626990112235 1.5 L 626990132967

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**Harvest Report:** The persistent heat in the spring of 2014 meant yet another accelerated growing season. However, September's warm days and cool nights allowed for our mature Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc vines to develop excellent flavours, complexity, and full tannins. These vines were established in the late 1960s and early 1970s, making them some of the oldest in the Okanagan Valley.

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**Winemaking:** Led by winemaker Rob Summers, the cellar team continues to achieve greatness with this iconic B.C. red, now in its eighth vintage. Each of the three varietals — Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon — were macerated and fermented separately in Italian Ganimede fermenters. Malolactic fermentation finished in the tanks before each varietal was oak-aged separately. After 14 months, the best lots were chosen, blended, and returned to oak for an additional 12 months, allowing the components to marry for a full-bodied, harmonious blend.

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**Tasting Notes:** The Judge is approachable in its youth but will benefit from cellar aging for five to eight years. Aromas of dark cherry, anise, leather, cocoa and toasty oak lead to a palate framed in light caramel, cherry and blackberry fruit. Framed by medium soft tannins with a lengthy finish. Pair this classic wine with prime rib, or beef tenderloin.

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## Winemaker Specs:

Harvest Date: Late October 2014

Production: limited release

Bottling Date: May 2017

Ageability: up to 8 years

Blend: Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon  
and Cabernet Franc

Alc. 14.85%  
RS g/L 2.3

Oak: 75% French, 25% American

pH 3.83 TA g/L 6.3

Alc.: alcohol | RS: residual sugar | TA: total acidity

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Hester Creek Estate Winery has its roots deep in B.C., with vines first planted in the alluvial soil of the Golden Mile Bench in 1968. Today, our estate vineyard produces wines that are a lively, intensely flavoured expression of this place we call home.

Learn more at [HesterCreek.com](http://HesterCreek.com).

TRUE WINE EXPERIENCE  
**HESTER CREEK**

