

94+

2010 Tenor Wines 1:1

Looking at the top, Cabernet Sauvignon dominated release, the 2010 1:1 Columbia Valley incorporates slightly more Merlot than normal and checks in as 42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 19% Cabernet Franc and 8% Malbec that spent 20 months in 100% new French oak. It offers fabulous purity in its cassis, licorice, toasted spice, graphite and lead pencil shaving like aromas and flavors. Full-bodied, tight, focused and elegant, with integrated acidity and building tannin that comes through with additional time in the glass, this rock star Bordeaux blend will have upwards of two decades of longevity. Coming to Washington via Napa Valley, Aryn Morell is producing some serious wines under his Tenor Wines label. In addition to the wines reviewed here, he also releases a Sauvignon Blanc and a Malbec. While he didn't produce his top cuvee in 2011, his second cuvee of 2:2 is a fantastic wine...