



2016

MERLOT  
WALLA WALLA VALLEY

# SEVEN HILLS WINERY

## TECHNICAL NOTES

VINEYARD	Select hand-farmed and hand-harvested vineyards in Walla Walla Valley, including Seven Hills Vineyard, Les Collines and McClellan Estate Vineyard.				
GRAPES	85% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Cabernet Franc				
VINTAGE	Very warm growing conditions, with strong heat unit accumulation producing small berries with opulent fruit framed by firm tannin structure				
AGEING	Small, open top fermenters. Aged 16 months in French, American, and European oak, 40% new				
AROMA	Boysenberry, sweet black cherry, clove				
TASTE	Soft, lush palate of black cherry and spice with a refreshing bright undertone				
ALCOHOL	14.4%	LOT SIZE	4100 cases	SRP	\$25.00



## WINEMAKER'S NOTES

I am very pleased to introduce the premier vintage of Seven Hills Winery Walla Walla Valley Merlot. Within Washington State, with its Merlot-friendly climate and soils, the Walla Walla Valley AVA occupies a very special place, with just the right amount of warmth and a generous variety of soil types and elevations, coupled with a decades-long tradition of growing great Merlot.

With 30 years of experience as Merlot specialists, working with established, dedicated winegrowers, we've sourced this bottling from a selection of the sweet spots of Merlot terroir, in deep silt-loam soils at mid-elevations around the AVA. All the classic attributes we look for in Merlot are here: lush, ripe fruit, a balanced, succulent palate, and accessibility. We blend in a small amount of Cabernet Franc to accentuate floral notes and bring an intriguing undertone of tobacco and brown leaf.

*Casey McClellan, Winemaker*

[WWW.SEVENHILLSWINERY.COM](http://WWW.SEVENHILLSWINERY.COM)

212 North 3rd Avenue • Walla Walla, WA 99362 • 877-777-7870 • [info@sevenhillswinery.com](mailto:info@sevenhillswinery.com)