



SEVEN HILLS

W I N E R Y

2018 MERLOT *Walla Walla Valley*



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 world class 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.

VITICULTURE & WINEMAKING CASEY McCLELLAN, WINEMAKER

100% Merlot from select vineyards in Walla Walla Valley focusing on deep silt-loam soils and mid-elevation. Open top fermented, aged in 40% new French, American and Russian barrels (225L barrels) for 16 months. Crossflow filtered.

VINTAGE

The 2018 growing season was consistent and generous, with a gentle and warm climate that yielded ample fruit. A long, mild autumn afforded ideal ripeness and tremendously balanced clusters. The first block of Merlot was harvested on the 6th of September and the last block was harvested on the 14th of September.

TASTING NOTES

Ruby in color, with aromatics of chocolate covered raspberries, black cardomon, blackberries, and fresh herbs. This is a medium-bodied wine with flavors of raspberry coulis, fresh cherries, tea leaf and raw sugar. This wine has a nice length with soft tannins finishing with cinnamon stick and semi-sweet chocolate. This wine is perfect for pairing with grilled waygu beef hamburgers or portabella mushroom with gouda or white cheddar cheese and grilled onions. This wine will be best enjoyed upon release and over the next six years.

ANALYSIS

APPELLATION *Walla Walla Valley* ALCOHOL 14.6% PH 3.79 TA 5.7

KEY FACTS

Walla Walla Valley provides a great blend of soils and climate for Merlot

Producing Merlot for over 30 years

Great Food Wine

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