



SEVEN HILLS

WINERY

2021 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

96% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc from select vineyards in Walla Walla Valley focusing on deep silt-loam earth and mid-elevation from the Southside of the AVA with a little bit from the Foothills. Vineyards include McClellan Estate, Seven Hills Founding Vineyard, Seven Hills Barrett Bench, and Kenny Hill.

Open top fermented, aged in 30% new French and American (225L barrels) for 15 months. Vegan and Crossflow filtered.

VINTAGE

The 2021 growing season brought a dry spring with normal growing conditions. Summer brought record-breaking heat and the hottest growing year on record. With the hot summer, we saw crops that were 25-50% less than estimated in the spring. Due to the dry, hot, and lower yield season, the 2021 vintage produced wines with great density, flavor, and structure. We picked the first round of Merlot on September 3rd, with the last Merlot from the foothills harvested on September 17th.

TASTING NOTES

Ruby in color with pronounced aromatics of red cherries, marionberry, and dried cranberries with hints of star anise, cigar box, and mocha. Medium body with elegant texture supported by balanced acid and fine medium tannins providing flavors of red cherries, raspberries, and earth with hints of mocha and baking spice. This wine is great for every occasion and pairs well with a Portabella Mushroom with Gouda Cheese, Grilled Octopus, Charcuterie Board, or an entire Thanksgiving feast. This wine is best enjoyed now and will age nicely over the next four to six years.

ANALYSIS

VARIETALS 96% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc

ALCOHOL 14.5% **PH** 3.77 **TA** 5.7 g/L

KEY FACTS

- Walla Walla Valley provides a great blend of soils and climate for Merlot.
- Producing Merlot for over 30 years.
- Great food wine.