



2016 MERLOT COLUMBIA VALLEY



Stellar fruit from two distinct vineyards, Double Canyon and Wallula was blended for this elegant representation of Merlot. A generous amount of Cabernet Franc from Double River Vineyard, about 20%, was added to the final blend for finesse and balance. These high-tier blocks were all harvested separately, and spent precious time on the skins during the maceration and extraction period which ensured an intense color profile in this wine. Primary fermentation finished in barrel and no racking was performed after Malolactic fermentation and barrel aging. All of the wine selected for this blend aged in French oak for 20 months, allowing for a beautiful integration of the expressive fruit and subtle oak.

Our Merlot shows bright nuances of ripe plum, dark cherry and raspberry with dried herbs, floral notes and baking spices evident on the nose as well. With more time in your glass, hints of mocha, cinnamon, tobacco leaf and cedar will be prominent, providing captivating accents on the bouquet.

This wine possesses a soft, silky texture with sweet berry fruit coating the mid-palate, revealing pleasing viscosity and roundness in the mouthfeel. The tannins are well managed and fair acidity delivers beautiful complexity and structure. This Merlot will be the highlight of your day by itself, but will make the experience even more memorable when paired with dishes such as sautéed duck breast, red wine poached pears with triple cream cheese or jambalaya.

TECHNICAL DATA

VINTAGE: 2016

VARIETIES: 80% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc

VINEYARDS: Double Canyon, Wallula, Double River

APPELLATION: Columbia Valley

OAK: 100% French, 40% New, 20 months

ALCOHOL: 15% **PH:** 3.81 **T.A.** 5.5g/L **R.S.** 0.2g/L

PRODUCTION: 425 cases

2901 OLD MILTON HWY. WALLA WALLA, WA 99362 | (509) 522-0200
INFO@BASELCELLARS.COM | WWW.BASELCELLARS.COM