

# 2016 LIMITED RELEASE

# KENTUCKY DERBY RED BLEND

#### COLUMBIA VALLEY

We crafted this Limited Release Red Blend to commemorate our proud sponsorship of the Kentucky Derby®, the legendary Thoroughbred race that dates back to 1875. Serve this wine at your Kentucky Derby viewing party paired with party favorites like deviled eggs and pecan pie.

### VINTAGE

- The 2016 vintage experienced the best of both worlds with a
  hot spring and early summer. A cooler than normal end of the
  ripening season allowed the wines to have ripeness, yet maintain
  freshness and elegance.
- The early dry and warm spring, combined with cooler temperatures in August and September, slowed down ripening and resulted in the longest harvest on record in Washington state.
- Overall, 2016 saw very favorable growing conditions, producing wines with nicely resolved tannins and maturity.

#### WINEMAKING

- Ripe clusters were gently de-stemmed into traditional upright fermenters.
- A malolactic conversion immediately followed primary fermentation, enhancing complexity and reducing acidity.
- Barrel aging took place in mostly neutral French and American oak for nearly 2 years to soften the wine.

Each varietal in the blend were fermented and aged separately with blending occurring just weeks before bottling.

## FLAVOR PROFILE

"This opulent red blend showcases juicy Washington fruit character with aromas of blackberries and plums with subtle hints of chocolate and pepper. Flavors of dark berries and cocoa, supported by plush tannins, give way to a long-lasting, persistent finish."

Hetth a. Kenson Keith Kenison, Winemaker