



## COMPONENT COLLECTION

2016 MERLOT

RED MOUNTAIN

A partnership between Marchesi Antinori of Tuscany and Chateau Ste. Michelle of Washington, Col Solare's mission is to unite the unique winemaking cultures of these two esteemed regions to produce world-class wines from the best fruit in Red Mountain.

The Component Collection is produced in limited quantities in select vintages using single varieties that display interesting character and exceptional quality.

**VINTAGE** The 2016 vintage on Red Mountain experienced the best of both worlds with a hot spring and early summer, but also a cool fall season. Cooler temperatures in August and September, slowed down ripening and resulted in longer hang time. Overall, 2016 saw very favorable growing conditions, producing wines with ripeness and elegance.

**WINEMAKING** Harvest began for Merlot on August 31st, with grapes full of dark fruit flavor and silky tannins. After sorting, grapes were gently crushed, with lots fermented separately on the skins for an average of 15 days. Both small bin and tank fermentation was used with primarily rack and return style maceration techniques to extract the best flavors without harsh tannins. The wine was removed from the skins and placed into new French oak barrels for malolactic fermentation and aging. Racking occurred every three months for the first year of the 22-month aging period, every four months afterwards. Bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

**TASTING NOTES** Dark in color, this Merlot has fragrant aromas of spices, dried fruits, and black currants, with a rich mouthfeel and long powerful finish.

– Darel Allvine, Winemaker



**THE BLEND** 87% MERLOT | 13% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

**TECHNICAL DATA**

TOTAL ACIDITY: 0.56 G/100 ML

PH: 3.73

ALCOHOL: 14.5%

CASE PRODUCTION: 197 CASES

**VINEYARDS** 100% COL SOLARE ESTATE VINEYARD

**APPELLATION** RED MOUNTAIN

COL SOLARE™

RED MOUNTAIN WINERY AND ESTATE VINEYARD

PH: 509.588.6806 | 50207 ANTINORI ROAD, BENTON CITY, WA 99320 | COLSOLARE.COM