



## COLUMBIA VALLEY

### 2018 Cold Creek Vineyard Merlot

#### VINTAGE NOTES

- 2018 was another stellar growing season and vintage in Washington.
- Warm spring temperatures were followed by mild conditions throughout the growing season allowing for extended hang time and flavor development.
- Warm fall days allowed for full ripeness and color, while cool Washington nights helped maintain crisp natural acidity.

#### VINEYARD NOTES

- Columbia Valley vineyards lie in the rain shadow of the Cascade Mountains and receive just 6-8 inches of rainfall annually.
- Warm, sunny days and cool evening temperatures create ideal conditions for intense aroma and flavor development in the ripening grapes.
- Sandy soils with low fertility and low water-holding capacity enable precise control of vine growth.

#### WINEMAKING NOTES

- Grapes were destemmed and sorted with a cutting-edge grape receiving and separation system designed to gently deliver fruit to the fermenters.
- Gentle pumpovers were used to extract optimal flavor and color and minimize harsh tannins.
- Aged for 21 months in 56% new French and 44% neutral French and American oak.

#### TASTING NOTES

“Planted in 1970s, Cold Creek is one of Washington’s oldest and most acclaimed vineyards. Character builds season after season in the growth rings of the old woody vines. This Merlot has broad-shouldered structure, concentrated fruit characters and deep color.”- Joe Cotta, Vineyard Manager

TA: 0.51 g/100mL

PH: 3.85

ALCOHOL: 14.8%

BLEND:

93% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon