



## COLUMBIA VALLEY

### 2018 Ethos Reserve 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.
- Each individual fermentation tank is tasted daily to evaluate the development of the tannins and structure.
- Aged in 59% new French and 41% neutral French oak.

#### TASTING NOTES

“The 2018 vintage provided magical conditions to create a complex Merlot. Dineen Vineyard makes up 55% of this wine, and I added depth and texture with 45% old vine Cold Creek Vineyard Merlot. This Merlot encapsulates everything that is remarkable about Washington State Merlot made by Chateau Ste. Michelle.” – Brian Mackey

TA: 0.53 g/100mL

PH: 3.71

ALCOHOL: 14.9%

BLEND:

100% Merlot