



TA: 0.54 g/100 mL

PH: 3.93

ALCOHOL: 14.9%

BLEND:
100% Merlot

COLUMBIA VALLEY

2021 Indian Wells Merlot

VINTAGE NOTES

- 2021 was a very warm growing season which resulted in intensely concentrated flavors in the wines.
- Our typical cool nights during harvest helped us retain the wonderful natural acidity Washington is known for.
- The 2021 season produced red wines dark in color and dense in concentration and white wines with varietal character and bright vibrancy.

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.

HISTORY NOTES

- Established in 1934, Chateau Ste. Michelle pioneered vinifera grape growing in Washington state.
- The winery owns 3,500 acres in the Columbia Valley of eastern Washington, including Horse Heaven, Canoe Ridge Estate and Cold Creek vineyards.
- Chateau Ste. Michelle's award-winning wines can be found in all 50 states and more than 100 countries worldwide.

WINEMAKING NOTES

- Grapes were destemmed and sorted using cutting edge technology to gently handle fruit and remove any green material.
- Gentle pumpovers were used to extract optimal flavor and color, and minimize harsh tannins.
- Aged for 24 months in 67% neutral oak, 17% new French oak and 16% new American oak.

TASTING NOTES

Specially selected and carefully aged, this premier merlot captures the intense energy of arid vineyards resulting in velvety blackberry and vanilla flavors. – Brian Mackey, Winemaker