



TA: 0.52 g/100 mL

PH: 3.78

ALCOHOL: 14.5%

BLEND: 100% Merlot

CASE PRODUCTION:

310

COLUMBIA VALLEY

## 2021 Premier 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 season produced red wines dark in color and dense in concentration and white wines with varietal character and bright vibrancy.

### VINEYARD NOTES

- Grape clusters are carefully farmed and harvested in separate small lots while awaiting selection for inclusion in Northstar Premier.
- In 2021 the lot that stood out was from Williams Heart of the Hill Vineyard on Red Mountain.
- Merlot from Williams Heart of the Hill was chosen to meet the expectations of the creation of the wine.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

- At harvest fruit was hand-harvested and hand-sorted with an eye towards optimum aging. Vinified in small lot fermenters.
- Daily punchdowns were done by hand, and the wine was aged in 100% French oak for 20 months in 40% new barrels.
- Bottled unfinned and unfiltered for maximum flavor.

### RECOMMENDED FOOD PAIRINGS

- Cured meats, rich cheeses, beef tenderloin, seared duck, and roasted leg of lamb.

### TASTING NOTES

This limited production offering was hand-crafted with meticulous detail to showcase the very best that Washington Merlot has to offer. Enjoy now or for many years to come as this wine will age beautifully in your cellar. – David "Merf" Merfeld, Winemaker