



TA: 0.51 g/100 mL

PH: 3.92

ALCOHOL: 13.8%

BLEND: 100% Estate Bottled Merlot

CASE PRODUCTION:

266

#### WALLA WALLA VALLEY

## 2021 Mule Skinner Merlot

#### VINTAGE NOTES

- 2021 was a vintage like no other. Spring was cool and dry and was followed by record high temperatures in the summer.
- In late June, temperatures topped 116°F, and weather conditions created a heat dome over the Northwest.
- Fortunately, late September and early October were cooler, allowing the fruit to reach sufficient maturity and flavor development.
- The season produced red wines with generous tannic structure that will age beautifully.

#### VINEYARD NOTES

- Spring Valley Vineyard lies twelve miles northeast of Walla Walla, amid the picturesque wheat fields of southeastern Washington.
- The vines follow the north-south slope of the hills in vertical rows that take advantage of air drainage and sunshine.
- Every grape cluster was tended by hand, including crop thinning, leaf pulling and harvesting.

#### HISTORY NOTES

- These wines are a tribute to the family members who have succeeded in farming the same land where the vineyard and winery now flourish.

#### WINEMAKING NOTES

- Spring Valley Vineyard fruit is hand-picked, hand-sorted and gently de-stemmed by gravity.
- In keeping with Spring Valley tradition, hand punch-downs occurred twice a day until the end of alcoholic fermentation.
- The wine was transferred by pump into barrels for secondary fermentation. Aged for 21 months in French oak.

#### TASTING NOTES

Our 2021 Mule Skinner Merlot reveals our traditional Spring Valley Vineyard rusticity. This wine is made up of 100% estate grown Merlot that showcases the terroir and varietal. Focused flavors of black cherries are complemented by notes of Cedar, herbs, and floral notes. – Kate Derby, Winemaker