

# Ode to Brothers

**LABEL:** MERCER RESERVE

**AVA:** HORSE HEAVEN HILLS

**VIN:** 2019



## WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Notes of strawberry, cranberry & tobacco are highlighted in the mouth with understated flavors of mint and eucalyptus. The contribution of each of these Rhone varieties has created a balanced, elegant wine that can be enjoyed for many years to come.

## VINEYARD SOURCING

The fruit for this wine is grown at our acclaimed Estate Spice Cabinet and Milt's vineyards in the Horse Heaven Hills. The fruit is exposed to dappled sunlight, allowing for uniform ripening and flavor development. Well balanced crop levels have allowed us to create wines with great depth and concentration.

## GROWING SEASON

The 2019 was a cooler vintage which allowed for evening ripening and flavor development. This led to great acidity and fresh fruit aromas. The consistent temperate conditions allowed for an elegant style of grape maturation.

## WINEMAKING

The grapes were harvested and sorted in the vineyards with our "Selective Harvester" to allow for maximum hangtime and flavor development. The fruit was not crushed in order to preserve as much whole-berry as possible. We fermented the fruit in stainless steel tanks and open top fermenters with a combination of pumpovers, rack & returns (délestage), and punchdowns to control extraction and flavors. After fermentation, the wine was racked to barrels consisting of neutral oak for malolactic fermentation. The wine was barrel aged for 20 months.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation: Horse Heaven Hills

Blend: 43% Syrah, 34% Mourvedre, 23% Grenache

Alcohol: 14.5%

T.A: 0.52 g/100 ml

pH: 3.90

UPC: 898012002231