# Merlot

LABEL: SUBSOIL AVA: HORSE HEAVEN HILLS





# WINEMAKER'S NOTES

On the nose, aromas of black cherry and blueberry mingle with hints of vanilla. The aromas are mirrored on the palate and accentuated with notes of black currant, white pepper and dark chocolate on the finish.

## VINEYARD SOURCING

The grapes for this wine come from our Dead Canyon Vineyard 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 2020 vintage started out cooler than normal, but temperatures quickly warmed up in August. The temperature change was very consistent. Along with the lower crop yields, the grapes were able to develop concentrated and vibrant flavors.

# WINEMAKING

These grapes were sorted in the vineyard with the selective harvest on our Pellenc harvesters. The fruit was not crushed in order to preserve as much whole-berry as possible. At the winery, individual lots were fermented in stainless steel tanks. Twice daily pumpovers allowed gentle extraction of color and tannin. This wine was aged for 18 months in 18% new French and American oak.

## **TECHNICAL NOTES**

Appellation: Horse Heaven Hills

Blend: 85% Merlot, 14% Syrah, 1% Cabernet Sauvignon

Alcohol: 14.5% T.A: 0.53 g/100 ml

pH: 3.92

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