



WOODWARD CANYON

EST. 1981

WALLA WALLA VALLEY

2015 COLUMBIA VALLEY MERLOT

This 2015 Columbia Valley Merlot was produced from grapes grown at Woodward Canyon Estate Vineyard (LIVE certified sustainable and Salmon Safe) at the western edge of the Walla Walla Valley and at Sagemoor Vineyard located above the Columbia River in near the Tri-Cities. These mature south facing vineyards are now 20 years average age, are comprised predominantly of silt loam and sandy loam soils respectively, and are very well drained. The 2015 vintage was perfect for merlot with harvest starting the middle of September.

CURRENT & PAST ACCLAIM

93 Points, *Jeb Dunnuck (former WA critic for Wine Advocate)*

"The 2015 Merlot Woodward Canyon ... is terrific and shines on all accounts. Loads of spiced red fruits along with hints of cassis, cedar, and cigar tobacco all flow to a medium-bodied Merlot that has fine tannins, a rocking texture, and a great finish. It's well worth buying and cellaring"

93 Points, Editor's Choice, *Wine Enthusiast* (2013)

90 Points, *Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate* (2013)

90 Points, *Wine Spectator* (2014)

91 Points, *WA Wine Blog* (2015)

VINEYARDS

Woodward Canyon Estate Vineyard (81%)

Established in 1976, Woodward Canyon is the western most vineyard in Walla Walla Valley AVA, roughly 15 miles west of Walla Walla Washington. 41 vineyard acres planted and several more acres of green belts supporting native species such as western juniper, ponderosa pine, western sage brush, arrow leaf balsam root, and perennial wildflowers. Ritzville silt loam over fractured basalt, slope 15-18%. 750-850ft elevation. Managed by Woodward Canyon winery.

Sagemoor Vineyard (19%)

Founded in 1968, Sagemoor Vineyards was a pioneering effort that helped establish the Washington State wine industry. Its early vineyards are among the oldest large-scale plantings of vinifera grapes in the State. Rick began using Sagemoor fruit in his home winemaking days and we continue to use it today. A significant number of 1972 plantings are still producing our "Old Vines" Cabernet Sauvignon sourced from specific rows in Blocks 3 and 9. Quincy loamy fine sand 0-15% slope, Sagehill very fine sandy loam, 2-10% slope. 572ft elevation.

TASTING NOTES

Washington State has long been renowned for world class merlot. Woodward Canyon has been a top producer of the varietal since the 1980's, known for a premium Right-Bank style that has incredible structure and balance. The wine shows beautifully, with rich high toned fruit, balanced acidity and great proportion. Complex flavors of cherry, spice, coffee and earth are enticing. Notes of black cherry, spiced oak, leather and earth come forth in the aroma. This wine is generous and balanced enough to enjoy now, yet with the complexity and structure to age well for six years or more.



WINE DATA

Varietal composition: 77% merlot, 19% cabernet sauvignon, 2% cabernet franc, 2% petit verdot

Alcohol: 14.8%

Bottling Date: February 2018

Release Date: November 2018

MSRP: \$52

Case Production: 409 cases

WINEMAKING

Hand harvested and sorted

48 hour cold soak

Fermented in 2 ton stainless steel fermenters

100% French (55% new, 45% used), 27 months

Spontaneous malo-lactic fermentation