



WOODWARD CANYON

EST. 1981

WALLA WALLA VALLEY

2015 Columbia Valley Merlot

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. Always sourcing from top vineyards, the 2015 Columbia Valley Merlot is the first vintage to have all the merlot come from our own Woodward Canyon Estate Vineyard. Planted in 1997, the south facing merlot blocks are now over 20 years average age. Produced and bottled on site at Woodward Canyon Winery.

CURRENT & PAST ACCLAIM

91 Points, *Washington Wine Blog*

91 Points, *Wine Spectator* (v2014)

90 Points, *Wine Spectator* (v2014)

90 Points, *Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate* (v2013)

93 Points, *Editors' Choice, Wine Enthusiast* (v2013)

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. 42 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.

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 has been sourcing from Sagemoor since his days as a home winemaker in the 1970's. Quincy loamy fine sand 0-15% slope, Sagehill very fine sandy loam, 2-10% slope. 572ft elevation.

TASTING NOTES

The 2015 vintage was perfect for merlot with harvest starting the middle of September. 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: October 2018

Retail Price: \$52

Case Production: 409 cases

WINEMAKING

Hand harvested and sorted

48 hour cold soak

Fermented in 2 ton stainless steel fermenters

100% French, mostly Taransaud, 27 months, 55% new

Spontaneous malo-lactic fermentation