



WOODWARD CANYON

## 2018 WALLA WALLA VALLEY ESTATE MERLOT

This 2018 Walla Walla Valley Estate Merlot was produced from grapes grown at Woodward Canyon Estate Vineyard (Salmon Safe certified) at the western edge of the Walla Walla Valley. This mature south-facing “old vine” vineyard block (Clone 3) is now 23 years of age. The newer Merlot block (Clone 181) is younger but very impressive. The average yield in 2018 ranged from 2.3 tons to 3 tons per acre.

### ACCLAIM

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**92 Points, Cellar Selection, *Wine Enthusiast***

**92 Points, Owen Bargreen**

### VINEYARD

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#### Woodward Canyon Estate Vineyard

Established in 1976, Woodward Canyon is the westernmost vineyard in Walla Walla Valley AVA, roughly 15 miles west of Walla Walla Washington. There are 41 vineyard acres planted and several more acres of green belts that support native species such as western juniper, ponderosa pine, western sagebrush, arrowleaf, balsamroot, and perennial wildflowers. Ritzville silt loam over fractured basalt, slope 15-18%, 750-850ft elevation. Managed by Woodward Canyon. All grapes are Salmon Safe certified as is the wine.

### TASTING NOTES

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The wine shows beautifully, with nice rich fruit, balanced acidity, and fine grained tannins. The full-bodied mouthfeel leads to complex flavors of black olive, and spice. Enticing notes of black cherry, spiced oak, and leather come forth. This wine is generous and balanced enough to enjoy now, yet with the complexity and structure to age well for six years or more. Pair with your favorite roasted pork tenderloin or roasted chicken.



### WINE DATA

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**Varietal composition:**

100% Merlot

**Alcohol:** 14.1%

**Bottling Date:** May 28, 2020

**Release Date:** September 2020

**MSRP:** \$52

**Case Production:** 317 cases

### WINEMAKING

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Hand harvested and sorted

48 hour cold soak

Fermented in 2 ton stainless steel fermenters

50% new French Barrels, 20 months