

ABEJA



2017 MERLOT COLUMBIA VALLEY

92 POINTS – VINOUS

Bright ruby-red. Complex scents of black cherry, currant, menthol, mocha, licorice and peppery herbs, plus a whiff of tobacco leaf; displays a stronger herbal element than the 2016. Plush, silky and easygoing on entry, then very ripe in the middle, with a suggestion of almost liqueur-like mocha/chocolate ripeness. Finishes with broad, serious, refined tannins that dust the palate and build quickly with air. A very chocolatey-rich, dense wine with restrained sweetness and good savory character. Serious concentration.

92 POINTS – JAMES SUCKLING

Aromas of currants, cedar and violets follow through to a medium body and fine tannins with a lovely, light velvety texture and a fresh, vivid finish. This needs a little more time to come together, but already nicely crafted.

91 POINTS – JEB DUNNUCK

All varietal and aged 19 months in barrel, the 2017 Merlot has a medium ruby/plum color as well as bright Bing cherry and currant fruits interwoven with plenty of tobacco, chocolate, and earth. This spicy, medium-bodied, nicely balanced beauty has a great texture, ripe, polished tannins, and a great finish. Drink it over the coming decade.