

ABEJA



2018 MERLOT COLUMBIA VALLEY

94 POINTS – DECANTER

“ . . . unveils a silky texture and fantastic sense of mouthfeel. Firm tannins hold in place a massive core of dark fruit, sweet pipe tobacco and chocolate fudge flavours. Decadent to enjoy now, this has another decade or more to go.”

93 POINTS - VINOUS

“Bright, dark red. Sexy, inviting scents of redcurrant, raspberry, mocha, dried flowers and spicy, nutty oak. Plush, round and sweet but also shapely and firm; a serious mouthful of Merlot with . . . its terrific breadth and supple, sweet tannins, this is an uncommonly sophisticated Washington Merlot. . .”

VINTAGE OVERVIEW

After a slow start to spring, the 2018 growing season warmed quickly with temperatures staying quite warm before moderating significantly in early September. Harvest conditions were ideal as the Columbia Valley settled into a pattern of warm days and cool nights that slowed ripening enough to allow the grapes to mature fully while retaining the fruit's acidity.

HARVEST DATES & VINEYARDS

September 11 – October 5, 2018

Sagemoor Farms: Bacchus, Dionysus, Weinbau; Heather Hill Estate; Mill Creek Estate;
Ciel du Cheval

BARREL FERMENTATION & AGING

Aged 19 months in 100% French oak

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

97% Merlot

3% Cabernet Sauvignon

APPELLATION

Columbia Valley

CHEMISTRY

Alcohol 14.5%, pH 3.71, TA 5.1 g/L

CASE PRODUCTION

728 cases

WINEMAKERS

Daniel Wampfler & Amy Alvarez-Wampfler