

# ABEJA



## 2016 Merlot, Columbia Valley

**Winemaker's Tasting Notes** - Giving and full of depth, this ripe vintage is brimming with character. Warm aromas of black walnut and cacao liqueur intertwine with suggestions of leather and tobacco. The palate is fresh, complex and expressive with notes of wild huckleberry and Oolong tea.

### Varietal Composition

100% Merlot

### Vineyard Source

Heather Hill Estate; Sagemoor; Ciel du Cheval; Mill Creek

### Appellation

Columbia Valley

### Harvest Dates

September 5 – October 19, 2016

### Oak Composition

100% French – medium toast

40% new, 60% experienced

### Chemistry

Alc. 14.5%, pH 3.82, TA 5.58g/L

**Barrel Aging:** 20 months

**Bottling Date:** June 2018

**Release Date:** November 2018

**Cases Produced:** 613

**Winemakers:** Daniel Wampfler & Amy Alvarez-Wampfler

**92+ Points - Vinous** *"Bright red-ruby. Lovely perfumed lift to the aromas of dark raspberry, cherry and sandalwood; as much red as black in character. Intensely flavored and sharply delineated, offering captivating inner-mouth perfumed lift to its dark berry and licorice flavors. A cooler and less pliant style than the 2015, but I love this wine's restrained sweetness, definition and light touch. This serious, refined, very youthful Merlot finishes with an element of medicinal reserve, dusty tannins and sneaky energy and length. I expect it to put on weight and gain in complexity with time in bottle. A classic presentation of the 2016 vintage."*