



MERLOT

2008 / COLUMBIA VALLEY

Vineyards: Walla Walla Valley, Yakima Valley, Red Mountain

Grapes: 86% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc

Vintage Season: Slightly cooler than average, dry

Vinification: 18 months in French, American and European Oaks, 25% new

Time in Cellar: Bottled March 2010

Aroma: Red berry, cherry, vanillin, hint of coffee mocha

Taste: Sweet ripe fruit texture, gentle bright balance, long finish

Alcohol %: 13.7%

Lot Size: 920 cases

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

We selected fruit for this Merlot bottling from several premium sites and sub appellations of the Columbia Valley. 2008 was a slightly cooler than normal year. This Merlot is delightfully balanced with great color and structure, without overbearing alcohol. The nose shows red berries, plum and cherry, toffee, vanillin and a hint of coffee mocha. On the palate, huge sweet ripe fruits follow though the whole length from beginning to end, supported by moderate tannins and brightness. Vibrant and fruity on the finish, with drying tannins. An excellent Merlot vintage, that I expect will be a pleasure to drink for up to five years from the release date if properly cellared.

CASEY MCCLELLAN / WINEMAKER-OWNER

212 North Third Avenue • Walla Walla, WA 99362
Tel: (509) 529-7198 / Fax: (509) 529-7733
www.sevenhillswinery.com

SEVEN HILLS