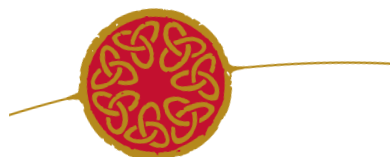


SEVEN HILLS



Merlot

SEVEN HILLS VINEYARD

WALLA WALLA VALLEY

2006

ALCOHOL 13.7% BY VOLUME

MERLOT

2006 / Seven Hills Vineyard

Vineyard: 100% Seven Hills Vineyard, Old Blocks

Grapes: 98% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Sauvignon

Vintage Season: Moderately warm, extended hang time, very low crop

Barrels: 17 months in French Oak, 40% new

Time in Cellar: Bottled March 2008

Aroma: Ripe red berry, cocoa, dried herb, sweet spice

Taste: Round ripe berries, gentle structure, smooth, persistent finish

Alcohol %: 13.7

Lot Size: 350 cases

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

This is a very complex, delightful Merlot from some of the oldest vines in the Walla Walla Valley. The 2006 vintage's low yields gave us somewhat fuller-bodied, concentrated wines than 2005; soft, but with polished structure. The abundant black and red fruits by nose and mouth are enchanting, with generous depth and length. The wine pairs well with a variety of foods. Our Merlot tends to age well into the 8-10 year range, under proper cellar conditions. This vintage is another excellent example of the qualities that have made Northwest Merlot such an enjoyable wine.

CASEY MCCLELLAN / WINEMAKER-OWNER

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