

# MERCER BROS. MERLOT

AVA: HORSE HEAVEN HILLS, COLUMBIA VALLEY

VINTAGE: 2021



Our great-grandfather, Willis Mercer, settled in Washington in 1886. Over fifty years ago, the Mercer family planted the first wine grapes in the Horse Heaven Hills. We strive to maintain Willis Mercer's independent spirit in our wines - tended by us, made by us.

-Will Mercer & Rob Mercer

#### WILL & ROB'S NOTES:

This wine opens with notes of blackberry, violet, and bramble. The palate mirrors the aroma of blackberry and is supported with flavors of vanilla and cedar. The firm tannins are supported with toasty notes and a long lingering finish.

#### ESTATE VINEYARDS:

The fruit for this wine is grown at our acclaimed estate vineyards in the Horse Heaven Hills. The fruit is exposed to dappled sunlight, allowing for uniform ripening and flavor development. Well balanced crop levels have allowed us to create wines with great depth and concentration.

#### GROWING SEASON:

The 2021 vintage was warmer than average. We experienced extremely high temperatures in June and July. The crop was lighter than expected with smaller clusters and lower numbers of berries. Mid to late October brought rain, but fortunately for us we were able to bring in all the fruit before the rain. Our 2021 vintage is highly concentrated and although a lighter yield year, it will be one for the books.

#### WINEMAKING:

These grapes were picked and immediately sorted in the vineyard. The fruit was not crushed in order to preserve as much whole-berry as possible. At the winery, individual lots were fermented in stainless steel tanks. Twice daily pumpovers allowed gentle extraction of color and tannins. This wine barrel aged for 22 months in 10% New French and American Oak.

#### TECHNICAL NOTES:

APPELLATION: Horse Heaven Hills

BLEND: 75% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Syrah

ALCOHOL: 14.5%

T.A.: 0.51 g/100 ml

PH: 4.01

UPC: 8-9801200275-0

#### ACCLAIM, VINTAGE 2017:

89 pts, The Wine Advocate

#### ACCLAIM, VINTAGE 2018:

90 pts, Tasting Room Magazine

#### ACCLAIM, VINTAGE 2020:

Gold, Cascadia Int'l Wine Comp  
90 pts, New York Int'l Wine Comp  
Dbl Platinum & 96 pts, Great  
Northwest Wines  
90 pts, James Suckling