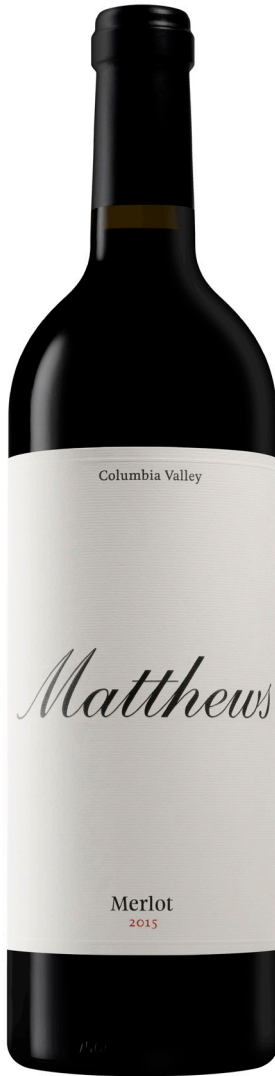


Matthews

2015 Merlot



This Bordeaux inspired blend is seductive, velvety and loaded with personality. In the Matthews style, it delivers a lot of power and concentration, but with more nuance than you might expect from new world blends. In Bordeaux, the Merlot-led right bank blends are revered for their nuance. This is truly one of the world's most classic blending styles, with each varietal providing the one small thing that the others are missing to create a remarkably balanced, complex and approachable wine.

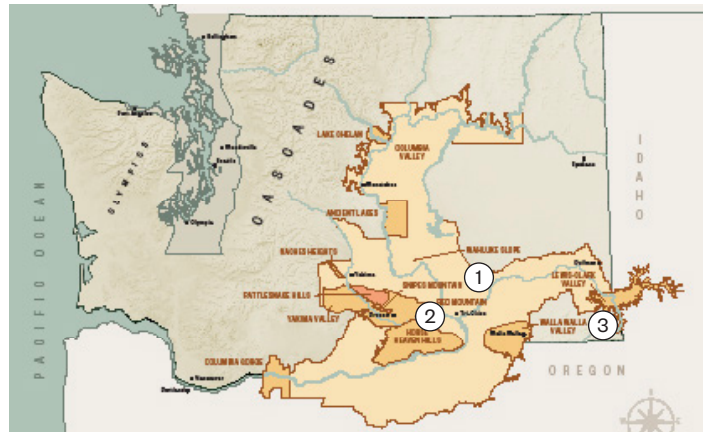
This was fermented in 100% concrete tanks and aged in 69% new French oak for 20 months. Essentially in the Reserve program this blended Merlot is meant to be perfumed, with showy fruit but a restrained and elegant presence. I love Merlots plump and fleshy nature, so we only used smaller amounts of Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon to add complexity, spice and some structure to rein in the palate.

"The 2015 Merlot is a blend of 78% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 2% Cabernet Sauvignon that was brought up in 69% new French oak. Crème de cassis, violets, a touch of vanilla bean, and incense all give way to a rich, voluptuous, beautifully textured, ripe Merlot that has sweet tannin and a silky, elegant texture. It's ready to go yet should keep for at least a decade."

93 points, Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com

SELECT VINEYARDS

①	Columbia Valley AVA	Dionysus Vineyard
②	Red Mountain AVA	Hedges Vineyard
③	Walla Walla Valley AVA	Blue Mountain, Pepper Bridge Vineyard



Production	373 Cases
Release Date	Fall 2018
Blend	78% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, 2% Cabernet Sauvignon
Vinification	100% Stainless Steel Tanks
Aging	20 Months in 69% New French Oak Barrels
Alcohol	14.6%
Retail	\$60