WALLA WALLA VINTNERS

2022 ESTATE ALERA



VINTAGE NOTES

We are firm believers that Washington grows some of the world's best Merlot. Our goal every year is to create the finest Merlot-based wine that our Estate Vineyard and the vintage can create, and this year was no different. 2022 was one of the coldest vintages on record. We had to be patient and let the grapes hit optimal ripeness. We picked the Merlot at Cut Bank Estate on October 13th, ten days later than average, and the Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot on October 27th.

TASTING NOTES

This deep garnet Merlot opens with brambly dark fruit, plum, and a savory herbal note. As it evolves in the glass, aromas of muddled blueberries. thyme, and roasted coffee emerge. The palate is rich and plush, with polished tannins and a round, mouthcoating texture. Petit Verdot adds length and depth to the finish, which lingers with notes of blue fruit, mint, and subtle toast from barrel aging. Our most refined expression yet.

POINTS Suckling **JAMES** SUCKLING

"Attractive nose with aromas of dark cherries, plums, licorice and a hint of cocoa. Medium- to fullbodied, smooth and textured, delivering a succulent flow of ruit and a firm, lightly spiced finish." - Fames Suckling

TECHNICAL DETAILS

APPELLATION

Walla Walla Valley

COMPOSITION

70% Merlot. 24% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Malbec, 2% Petit Verdot

Vineyard Source

Cut Bank Estate

FERMENTATION

Multiple lots fermented for an average of 19 days in 6 ton stainless steel tanks. Pumped over twice daily with mid-fermentation delestage.

AGING

22 months in 60% new French oak and 40% neutral French oak barrels

BOTTLING DATE

August 2024

RELEASE DATE

October 2025

PRODUCTION

290 x 750mL 12pk

ALCOHOL

14.9%

ACID

5.4 G/L

PH

3.77



