

# TENOR

## 2014 Merlot

The hallmark of Tenor Merlot is a full bodied and voluptuous red that retains the freshness and elegance for which Merlot is known. In fact, our Merlot tends to have more structure than our Cabernet Sauvignon, but we are careful to extract finer, drier, silkier tannins to ensure the wine exhibits velvety texture. This wine offers complexity with a harmony of fruit, floral notes, and spice.

All the grapes are cluster sorted then destemmed and berry sorted by hand. Sorting is aggressive, but less so than some other Tenor wines because the few bits of stem actually add a nice perfume and complexity to the merlot.

This was fermented in 42% stainless steel and 58% concrete. Aged in 83% new and 17% used French oak barrels. Bottled after 19 months. This is one of the wines that has benefitted the most by the addition of concrete tanks, the fruit/tannin integration and overall rounding of this wine has made this much more supple and pleasurable.

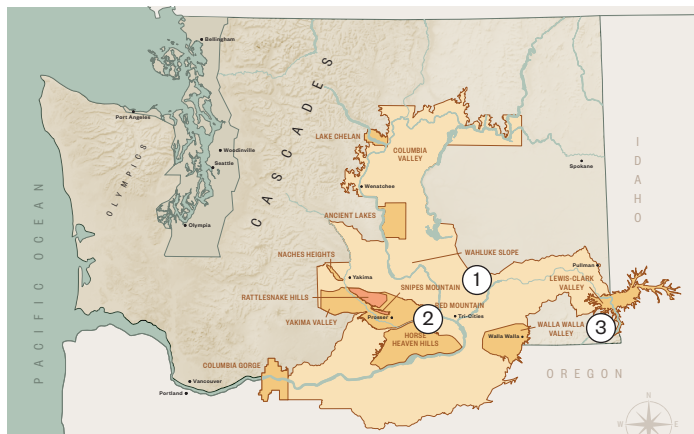
*“An intoxicating combination of strawberry and blackberry preserves framed by a perfect mix of sandalwood and spice. Swirling brings red and black currants, licorice, vanilla bean and a hint of black cherry. The palate is dense but with seamless fruit and superfine tannins. Youthfully compressed but stunning nonetheless.”*

-ARYN MORELL, WINEMAKER

### SELECT VINEYARDS

- ① Columbia Valley AVA Dionysus Vineyard
- ② Red Mountain AVA Hedges Family Estate, Red Mountain
- ③ Walla Walla AVA Pepper Bridge Vineyard

*“Very bright cedary and spicy oak on the nose. Violets, plums and a gently meaty thread leading to a palate that has rather bold, ripe fruits in the spiced plum zone. Drink or hold.”*  
-90 points, James Suckling, [jamesuckling.com](http://jamesuckling.com)



Labeled AVA	Columbia Valley
Case Production	140
Varietal Breakdown	100% Merlot
Fermentation	58% Concrete, 42% Stainless Steel
Aging	83% new and 17% used French oak for 19 months
Alcohol	15.5%
Retail	\$58