

2021 MOTLEY PURIST



TASTING NOTES

Ah, the Motley Purist - Merlot the way it can be. The way it should be. Dense, dark purple and an aroma filled with black raspberry, pomegranate and coffee. The flavors are full of contradictions but masterfully conjoined into a harmonious whole. Cassis with cherry candy - wouldn't have thought of that but it's amazing. Tannins like a soft silk top covering big smooth muscles? What a knockout. Speaking of knocked out - take that, Miles Raymond. We're drinking fucking merlot. And loving it.

FOOD PAIRINGS

Not your entry-level merlot, the Motley Purist wants something substantial on the plate, like a saucy steak or a hunk of grilled tempeh.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

If you had to guess what was the most-requested wine in our tasting room, what would you say? Yup, it's Merlot. For many years I steadfastly refused to make a Merlot, because (a) I wasn't a fan, (b) Merlot had a bad reputation and (c) all the big wineries were doing it. Then over time I tasted one fantastic, complex Washington Merlot after another, and realized that we were missing out on making some great wine by not being open to new ideas. So I set my purist tendencies aside and added Merlot to our motley assortment of varieties. Enjoy!



COMPOSITION	100% Merlot from Elephant Mountain Vineyard
APPELLATION	Washington
HARVEST DATE	September 30, 2021
HARVEST SPECS	25.8 brix, pH 3.98, TA 3.3 g/l
CRUSH PAD	Destem and light crush
SAIGNEE	6%
YEAST	AWRI 1503
FERMENTATION	Small open-top fermentors, punched down by hand
TIME ON SKINS	15 days
AGING	19 months in barrels
OAK	Approximately 19% French Oak
FINING/FILTRATION	Unfinned / Polishing filtration only
ALCOHOL	14.5%
PRODUCTION	190 cases
BOTTLED	May 2, 2023
AWARDS	Silver, Seattle Wine Awards