

WATERBROOK

WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON

Reserve

2021 MERLOT

COLUMBIA VALLEY

TASTING NOTE

"Floral aromatics with violets and roses forward. This wine is a medium to full bodied wine with chalky and lingering tannins on the finish. Flavors of black plum and late season cherries has a delicious finish of tanned leather, chocolate covered cherries and cedar plank."

—John Freeman, Winemaker

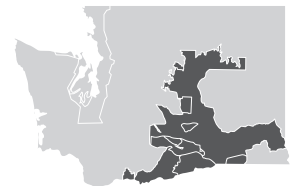
VINTAGE NOTE

The 2021 growing season brought some of the warmest temperatures on record, promising a vintage with exceptional quality and flavors. A 10-day heat streak in early summer helped prevent any disease from permeating the vines and, fortunately, our vineyard teams and management practices beat the heat to evade any lasting damage. Veraison commenced in all our estate vineyards a few days ahead of last year. A modest yield of smaller, beautifully ripe fruit was the theme across our Washington estates. The reds from this vintage are bold with big tannins and concentrated flavors, with some of the darkest fruit seen in years. Weather, modest crop levels and good winemaking practices have made the 2021 vintage a high-quality and memorable throughout the state.

VINEYARDS

57% Alder Ridge, 43% Pepper Bridge

Known for its many and varied microclimates (cool, warm, windy, hilly, flat), Columbia Valley is the umbrella AVA under which many of the state's sub-AVAs fall. While it contains 99% of wine grapes grown in Washington state, 6,851 of its acres are unique to the Columbia Valley and don't overlap another sub-AVA in the state.



WINEMAKING

VARIETY PERCENTAGE: 100% Merlot

TA: 5.8 g/l

AGING: 18 months in 30% new French & American oak

PH: 3.86

ALC: 14.4%

ACCLAIM

2020 | 92 POINTS, *Wine Enthusiast*

2017 | 91 POINTS, *James Suckling*

2018 | 91 POINTS, *James Suckling*

2016 | 91 POINTS, *James Suckling*