



# LONG HAUL

Red Wine | Columbia Valley | 2018

# Winemaking Notes

The 2018 Long Haul is composed primarily of merlot from two of our premium vineyard sites; Red Willow Vineyard in the upper Yakima valley and Quintessence Vineyard on Red Mountain. With an average vine age of 25 years and planted on ancient soils that were above the Missoula floods, Red Willow merlot offers a savory aromatic profile and a complex depth and intensity on the palate. Quintessence is a relative newcomer to the Washington vineyard scene with much of the vineyard planted within the last 10 years. Through exceptional vineyard management and site selection, the vineyard continues to produce world class fruit with intense dark fruit aromas and flavors with incredible power across the palate. The 2018 vintage started off hot. Temperatures dropped significantly in September which allowed for more even ripening and the production of supremely balanced wines. The wine was fermented in a combination of 1.5, 2 and 5 ton open top fermenters for 7-10 days. Every effort is made to treat the wine as gently as possible. The must is never put through pumps and gentle punch downs occur twice per day. The wine is lightly pressed to barrel, where it finishes primary and malolactic fermentation and is aged for 21 months in 71% new French oak. The wine was racked twice prior to being bottled.

# Tasting Notes

2018 Long Haul gives dense aromatics of blackberry compote and dark cherry. This full-bodied red blend offers baking spice, some earth notes and minerality, and cherries with more dark berry flavors on the palate. It's lush and inviting with fine tannins that balance with acidity and a seemingly endless finish.

#### **BLEND**

72% Merlot 17% Cabernet Sauvignon 10% Cabernet Franc 1% Petit Verdot

### BARREL

71% 22mm French Chateau Ferré Thin Stave

Aged for 21 months

# **PRODUCTION**

1,800 cases

#### **RELEASE**

September 2020

### **APPELLATION**

Columbia Valley

## **VINEYARDS**

Quintessence Red Willow Ciel du Cheval Phinny Hill Obelisco Olsen

# MATURITY WINDOW

2021-2031

# PAST ACCOLADES

2017: 93 James Suckling 2016: 93 Jeb Dunnuck 2015: 94 Jeb Dunnuck 2014: 91 Wine Advocate 2013: 93 Wine Enthusiast

Founded in 1999 by Mark Ryan McNeilly, MARK RYAN WINERY is a small winery located in Woodinville, Washington. Our goal is to produce handcrafted wines that represent the vineyard from which they come, the character of the varietal, and our style. From the vineyards to the winery, our uncompromising commitment to quality and our passion to produce the best wines possible, inspire us to make these wines for you.