



## LONG HAUL

Red Blend | Columbia Valley | 2015

### Winemaking Notes

The 2015 Long Haul is composed primarily of Merlot from Yakima Valley's Red Willow Vineyard. With an average vine age of 24 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. The warm 2015 vintage allowed us to harvest all of Long Haul's components in the month of September, between the 3rd and 23rd. As in years past, every lot was fermented in 1.5 and 2 ton open-top fermenters for 9 to 12 days. Every effort is made to treat the wine as gently as possible; the must is never put through pumps and is gently punched down twice per day. Fermentation rounds are performed to monitor fermentation and track when the wines are ready to be lightly pressed into barrel, where it finishes primary and malolactic fermentation. The wine was aged in 65% new French oak for 22 months and was racked twice prior to being bottled on June 29th, 2017.

# Tasting Notes (89-91) Points

"Offering lots of violet, spiced plum, cassis and incense aromas and flavors, the 2015 Long Haul (84% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and the rest Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot) is medium-bodied, fresh and focused on the palate, with a slightly tight, linear profile on the finish."

Jeb Dunnuck, The Wine Advocate

#### **BLEND**

84% Merlot 8% Cabernet Franc 6% Cabernet Sauvignon 2% Petit Verdot

#### **BARREL**

65% New 22mm French Chateau Ferré Thin Stave

Aged for 22 months

#### **PRODUCTION**

1,500 Cases

#### RELEASE

October 7, 2017

#### **APPELLATION**

Columbia Valley

#### **VINEYARDS**

Quintessence Red Willow Ciel du Cheval Klipsun Olsen

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.