



**Moral Compass**  
**Red Wine Blend**  
**Columbia Valley**  
**Washington State**  
**2016 Vintage**

**BevMo!**



**Winery Notes:**

Columbia Valley is Washington state's premier wine-growing region. Warm days are followed by cool nights, which makes for a long, even growing season and flavorful, fruit-forward, balanced wines. It is a perfect region for this Red Wine Blend where aromas of blackberries, cherries and oak, lead to a rich palate marked with deep, dark fruit flavors with notes of dark chocolate and spice.

**Winemaking:**

Red varieties including Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah and Petite Verdot were gently de-stemmed, the must was fermented on the skins for up to two weeks at ~80°F because warm temperature fermentation aids in extracting color and desirable tannins. The next step, pressing, was handled very gently to avoid the overly drying tannins found in the seeds. After pressing, the wine was racked into oak barrels to age for several months prior to bottling. The final blend was constructed a couple weeks before bottling.

*Varietal Blend: 57% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Zinfandel*

**Vintage:**

2016 was known to be one of the longest harvests in Washington. The extended season allowed grapes to ripen slowly with early reports indicating a good vintage. The constant hot, dry days amid April and May extended throughout mid-summer allowing for early bud break and some of the most blooming Washington vines growers had ever seen. However, the cooler days just before harvest led to extended ripening and helped preserve freshness and elegance in the finished wine. The head wave and slow cool down provided a perfectly well-balanced wine.

*Wine Analysis: 0.54 g/100ml TA, 3.85 pH, 14.5% alcohol by volume*

**Grape Sourcing:**

Grapes were sourced from the most premium vineyards in Washington's largest viticulture region, the Columbia Valley. With vineyards planted predominately on south facing slopes, the vines receive peak sunlight in the summer and allow air drainage in the winter. Columbia Valley experiences an annual rainfall averaging 6 to 8 inches ensuring the richness in the soil. This irrigation, along with consistently warm temperatures during the growing season provides for a controlled and desired harvest. With this steady environment, consistently high-quality wines are ensured.

*Appellation: Columbia Valley, Washington State*

