



# JANUIK

## 2016 Columbia Valley Merlot

### VINTAGE

The 2016 growing season got off to a fast start with warm spring temperature that resulted in a very early bud break. Temperatures continued to climb into early summer, then moderated perfectly to slow growing conditions throughout July and August. Moderate temperatures continued into the fall, slowing the pace of ripening just enough to extend hang time, develop full flavors in the grapes and yield delicious wines that are both powerful and refined with pleasing freshness.

### VINEYARDS

One of the advantages of having made wine in the Columbia Valley since the mid-1980s is the opportunity it's given me to work with some of the most dedicated growers in the industry. Our Columbia Valley wines are made from a short list of vineyards I consider to be among the best in the state. The diversity of these vineyards-representing many of the most mature, carefully managed sites in Washington-provides for a full range of fruit expression that allows me to craft complex, multi-layered wines true to Columbia Valley *terroir* as well as the varietal character of the grapes. Our 2016 Columbia Valley Merlot includes grapes from Klipsun, Champoux, Weinbau, and Ciel du Cheval vineyards.

### WINEMAKING

After destemming and crushing, grapes were fermented on their skins in small lots for an average time of 8 days. After being pressed off, each lot of wine was moved to an equal mix of new and once used French oak barrels for 22 months of barrel aging during which time the wine was raked every 5 months.

### TASTING NOTES

This supple, medium-bodied Merlot shows lots of raspberry, blackberry and plum notes in the nose that transition into fleshy black fruit and mocha flavors in the mouth. Brimming with a tremendous amount of texture and length, this wine should age gracefully for a minimum of 10-15 years.

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker

[www.januikwinery.com](http://www.januikwinery.com)



### ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity.....	0.54g/100ml
pH.....	3.68
Blend.....	96% Merlot 2% Cabernet Franc 2% Cabernet Sauvignon
Cases.....	585
Bottling Date.....	August 28, 2018