

# 2016 WINEMAKER'S WHITE COLUMBIA VALLEY

Varietal Composition: 28% Sauvignon Blanc, 28% Pinot Gris, 23% Viognier, and 21% Semillon

Appellation: Columbia Valley

Harvested: September through October 2017

Bottled: August 1, 2017

Technical Data: Alc. 13.2% by vol.; RS: 0.46%; TA: 6.67 g/L; pH: 3.07

Cases Produced: 3,216

Production & Aging: Stainless steel fermentation

#### THE VINTAGE

Warmer temperatures in Spring accelerated an early start to the 2016 growing season with our first crush taking place on August 22nd. Washington State experienced cooler temperatures midsummer which slowed ripening. The change in temperature controlled acid levels in the fruit while enhancing berry phenolics. It also lengthened the harvest for the season allowing our later varieties plenty of hang time and flavor development, with the last fruit being picked November 12th.

#### THE VINEYARD

Sourced from two award-winning vineyards in Washington state's Columbia Valley AVA-Tudor Hills Vineyard and Gunkel Vineyard (Estate).

### THE WINEMAKING

Throughout harvest, Winemaker Richard Batchelor worked closely with local growers and visited each vineyard to taste for maturity and ripeness to determine the precise moment to pick the fruit. Grapes were harvested during the cool hours of the morning to preserve bright fruit notes and destemmed into the press, where each lot was processed on a champagne cycle. This is a slower press cycle that is extremely gentle on the fruit ensuring optimum fruit character is preserved. The juice was kept separate and partially fermented in stainless steel tanks with French oak staves. Once fermentation was finished, this wine was blended together to encapsulate the varietal character and highlight the harmony arising from the wood fermented portion.

## **TASTING NOTES**

Aromas of cantaloupe and lilac lead into a juicy palate of lemon zest and light minerality that is offset with lively acidity. This wine is sure to pair well with seafood.

# AWARDS

Gold; 2018 Seattle Wine Awards

Gold; 2018 Cascadia Wine Competition

