



# GORDON

## *Estate*

### *Merlot*

**2015** ESTATE GROWN ~ KAMIAK VINEYARD ~ COLUMBIA VALLEY, WA



#### VINEYARD

- The estate vineyard is south-facing and is perched some 620 feet above sea level.
- The vineyard has excellent air drainage and temperatures from the rivers moderating in winter.
- The vines are sometimes blanketed in snow in the winter, but spring and summer offers sunshine and warmth allowing the grapes to ripen completely.
- Temperatures during the growing season can fluctuate from 95 degrees Fahrenheit during the day to 55 degrees at night.
- Vines are grown on their own rootstock yielding large grape varieties. Typical vine spacing is 6' by 10' using a Vertical Shoot Positioning trellis system.
- The vineyard is amply supplied for irrigation when needed.

#### VINTAGE

The 2015 kicked off with a mild Winter and early Spring that jump started the growing season in Eastern Washington. Couple that with the hottest Summer on record and the result was the earliest harvest start to date. Three weeks earlier than average, bud break occurred on the 20th of March and we were already enjoying consistent daily highs in the mid 70s. Like 2014 the heat built quick from there and by mid-May we saw our first day over 100 degrees. Summer was dry and hot, the hottest on record and with that harvest arrived as we picked the first of our Chardonnay on August 26. As we rolled into September the summer heat gave way to a wonderfully dry and warm fall that carried us through until harvests end on October 26th. That cooling trend allowed our reds extra hang time to develop and refine tannin structure and deepen flavor profiles.

#### TASTING NOTES

The seductive aroma of anise and red currants jumps out of your glass! Flavors of plum, Bing cherry, and nutmeg are balanced by vibrant acidity and the distinctive minerality that comes from our estate vineyard. This wine checks all the boxes; it is a perfect balance between fruit, acid, and silky tannins that lingers on the finish.

- **COMPOSITION:** 100% Merlot
- **OAK PROGRAM:** 22 months, 31% New French Oak and 19% New American Oak
- **pH:** 3.75
- **TA:** 6.0g / 100mL
- **ALCOHOL:** 13.8%
- **PRODUCTION:** 1,838 cases
- **BOTTLED:** Sep 2015

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