



## 2012 Merlot

### Seven Hills Vineyard, Walla Walla Valley

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Vineyard: Seven Hills Vineyard, Walla Walla Valley  
100% LIVE Certified Sustainable

Grapes: 100% Merlot

Vintage: Warm growing conditions, moderate heat unit accumulation spread throughout the ripening season, normal yields

Ageing: 20 Months in French Oak Barrels, 40% new

Aroma: Plum chutney, cinnamon, marzipan, mineral

Taste: Red plum, currant, vanilla cream, spice, desert herb

Vegan: Yes

Alcohol: 14.2%

Lot size: 560 cases

## Winemaker's Notes

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This wine is drawn from the original Merlot block at Seven Hills Vineyard that I planted with my father in the summer of 1982. This vintage marks the 25<sup>th</sup> year I have been making Merlot from these same vines.

The wine exhibits a beautiful, dense, ruby color and pungent, enticing aromas of plum chutney, cinnamon, marzipan, mocha, and a hint of iron-ore minerality. The palate is supple and generous with loads of rich red plum, currant, vanilla cream, baking spice, desert herbs, and dusty tannins. The finish is lush and lingering with a lovely balance and well integrated but firm tannins, ripe red fruits, and spice. As with all our reds from the 2012 vintage, it is delicious now and it will cellar well for an additional 5-7 years from release.

Casey McClellan, Winemaker

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