

Matthews

2016 Merlot



The 2016 Matthews Merlot comes from several small vineyard parcels within three AVAs: Red Mountain, Walla Walla, and the Columbia Valley. Harvested by hand in the early mornings September through October 20th, it was hand-sorted and fermented in the winery using both concrete (91%) and stainless steel (9%) tanks. The free-run wine was celled in French oak (50% new) for 21 months. Evaluated over 40 times by our winemaking team, only 272 cases were ultimately selected and bottled.

“Drinking more like a Bordeaux blend than straight-up Merlot, this has coffee, raspberry, spice, herb, dark cherry and graphite aromas out front. The palate brings a sense of volume and layering but also elegance, extending on the finish. A citrus note emerges over time. It has a nice yum factor.”

-91 points, Sean Sullivan, Wine Enthusiast

SELECT VINEYARDS

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|---|------------------------|--|
| ① | Columbia Valley AVA | Stillwater Creek Vineyard, Dionysus Vineyard, Bacchus Vineyard |
| ② | Red Mountain AVA | Hedges Family Estate, Red Mountain |
| ③ | Walla Walla Valley AVA | Pepper Bridge Vineyard |

AVA	Columbia Valley
Case Production	272
Varietal Breakdown	94% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Cabernet Franc
Fermentation	91% concrete, 9% stainless steel
Aging	50% new French oak for 21 months
Drinkability	Now - 2029
Alcohol	14.3%
Retail	\$39

