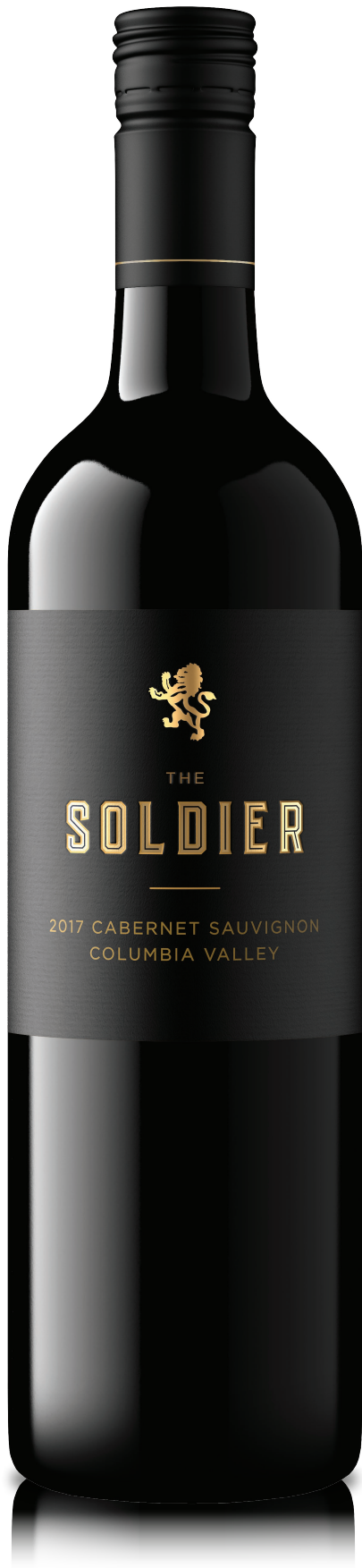


THE  
**SOLDIER**  
C A B E R N E T   S A U V I G N O N



**2017**  
**CABERNET SAUVIGNON**  
**COLUMBIA VALLEY**

The Soldier - working the long hours, quietly carrying the heavy weight of duty with love and courage. The Soldier is sourced from the exceptional vineyards of the Columbia Valley.

**TASTING NOTES**

The Soldier has a brooding dark garnet color with brick red edges. There are aromas of baked blueberry pie, cocoa powder and plum with savory nuances like fresh sage, tobacco leaf and ground coffee. Immediate fruit flavors like dark cherry and currant are accentuated by clove, sage and toasty oak. This is a big wine with tannin that turns from chewy to dusty through the mid-palate. Bright and balanced acidity leads to a complex and structured finish. Drinking beautifully now and has terrific cellaring potential.

**WINEMAKING PROCESS**

Grape clusters are destemmed and gently crushed to break the berry skin. A small portion of whole berries are also included in the must to soften overall wine tannins. The must is then cold soaked for 48 hours with daily pump overs. Fermentation occurs in a stainless steel open-top tank with twice daily punch downs. Wines are tasted daily during fermentation to monitor tannins and overall extraction. Grape skins are removed from the wine when optimal flavor and texture are obtained and the barreled down for extended aging in French and American oak.

**VINTAGE NOTES**

Bud break in 2017 was behind historical averages and significantly behind the most recent warm vintages of 2013-2015. The early part of summer saw average temperatures in the Columbia Valley followed by above average temperatures in July and August. Harvest began right on schedule, perhaps even a bit early, in late August. In the second half of September, temperatures cooled considerably, which delayed ripening. This allowed for luxurious amounts of hang time without the threat of increased sugar accumulation, stretching harvest into the first week of November.

**Varietals:** 78% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Cabernet Franc, 8% Merlot, 3% Tempranillo  
**AVA:** 70% Columbia Valley, 23% Red Mountain, 7% Walla Walla Valley  
**Alcohol:** 14.5%