

**91 POINTS**  
- *Wine Enthusiast Magazine*



# NEXT RED BLEND COLUMBIA VALLEY

**2018**

## COLUMBIA VALLEY RED BLEND

### THE HEAVENS

The Columbia Valley AVA lies in the Columbia Plateau, or Columbia Basin, found primarily in eastern Washington State with a small section crossing into Oregon. Stretching between the 46th and 47th parallels, the Columbia Valley is in line with the famed French wine growing regions of Bordeaux and Burgundy. This more northern latitude allows two more hours of daylight during the summer growing season. In 2018 the Columbia Valley cycled through cool and warm months. Temperatures in July and August were quite warm, on pace to make 2018 among the warmest vintages on record, before cooling considerably in September, which created ideal conditions for ripening and harvest.

### THE EARTH

The soils found in the vineyards of the Columbia Valley are defined by the great Missoula floods, a series of cataclysmic floods that swept through the Columbia Gorge more than 10,000 years ago. Most vineyards lie below the floodwater with soils of loess (wind-blown deposits of sand and silt) overlying gravel and bedrock formed by sediment. This provides a diversity of soil types that are well drained and ideal for growing wine grapes.

### THE BOUNTY

A food friendly wine, NEXT Red Blend opens with aromas and dark berry flavors like blueberry pie and blackberry jam. With spicy notes of coffee and clove, this blend of Syrah, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon boasts a deep, round and coating mouthfeel followed by balanced, structured tannins. Sweet oak accents join earth and mint for a complex finish. Aged 10 months in French and American oak, 25% new.

Varietals: 40% Syrah, 40% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon  
AVA: Columbia Valley  
Alcohol: 13.5%