

# NORTH BY NORTHWEST

2018

## RED BLEND COLUMBIA VALLEY

North by Northwest was established by the King family in 2005 with the vision to handcraft varietally pure wines from the finest vineyards of eastern Oregon and Washington. This wine displays the features – fruit driven, flavorful, aromatic with balanced structure and distinctive character – that have helped establish the Columbia Valley as one of the world's foremost wine grape growing regions. With good weight and depth, this is a versatile, food friendly wine to enjoy now or tuck away in your cellar.

### TASTING NOTES

An enticing deep garnet color in the glass, the wine opens with a fragrant nose of black cherry, blackberry compote, chocolate, coffee, vanilla, clove, blueberry, violets and black pepper. Flavors of dark fruit – prunes, ripe plum, blackberry, blueberry and black currant – continue on the palate, with notes of spice box, toast, tobacco leaf and pepper. Round and smooth up front, the wine boasts good weight and depth on the mid-palate. Firm yet refined tannins offer structure to a luscious finish.

### WINEMAKING PROCESS

Grapes were cold soaked, punched down and pumped over. For optimum flavor and body, this wine underwent délestage, also known as rack and return, and extended maceration. Aged 10 months on French and American oak, 25% new.

### VINTAGE NOTES

Another warm vintage for Washington, 2018 was marked by ideal weather during the harvest season. The Columbia Valley cycled through cool and warm months. April was cool, delaying budbreak slightly. May was one of the warmest on record, followed by a June that was cooler than average. In July and August temperatures 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. Harvest was long and drawn out, starting for sparkling wines in mid-August and ending in early November at some sites.

**Varietals:** 62% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Syrah, 4% Tempranillo  
**AVA:** Columbia Valley  
**Alcohol:** 14.0%

