



RED MOUNTAIN FAMILY BLEND 2017

DRIVEN BY PASSION. NURTURED BY FAMILY.
INSPIRED BY RED MOUNTAIN.

STORY

Sweeping gusts of wind, wild temperature swings, and high-alkaline soil: just a few features that position Red Mountain, Washington among the world's top regions for growing wine grapes. The Aquilini family is dedicated to expressing the best of this special region through unwavering commitment to quality.

VINTAGE REPORT

The 2017 Vintage started out with a cool, wet winter resulting with delayed budbreak and bloom. The summer began with average temperatures shifting into warmer than average temperatures in July and August. The rapid heat accumulation helped balance out the season. In Late September temperatures cooled off significantly which allowed the fruit to hang longer while slowly building sugar accumulation and developing deep concentrated flavors. This vintage is noted for wines of power, superb tension and memorable varietal character.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Our 2017 Aquilini Family Blend features grapes from the same vineyards, same winemaker, same cellar, and same barrels as our Cabernet Sauvignon. As we do for all our reds, we make several harvest passes to ensure the grapes are picked only when perfectly ripe. The grapes for this Family Blend were hand harvested on October 9th and 13th and gently destemmed and lightly broken at the winery. A four-day pre-fermentation cold soak and lengthy maceration (26 days) were followed by a gentle pressing and transfer to high quality French barrels. For the 27-month aging process, we chose barrels that would imbue the wine with charm, elegance and an overall softer profile than its big brother, Cabernet Sauvignon. Though designed for earlier consumption than the Cab, the Family Blend will age beautifully; in fact, it possesses the capacity to reward the patient consumer over a 10-year or longer aging curve. For 2017, a touch of Petit Verdot adds further complexity and spice to the blend.





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DESCRIPTION

The conundrum presented by our 2017 Aquilini Family Blend is whether to celebrate it now, or savor it down the road. Either way, this wine romances with lush berries, chewy espresso, and a beguiling softness. Grown with the same care in the Blackwood Canyon and The Canyons vineyards beside our Cabernet Sauvignon, these grapes offer all the pleasure of the Cabernet with a bit of bounce from Petit Verdot. Although this wine will age beautifully, it's so delicious now, you may be tempted not to let it.

TASTING NOTES

Lush. Layered. Fresh. Bright aromas of African espresso, raspberries and rose powder burst from the glass. The wine is balanced with well-integrated acidity and framed by firm, ripe tannins. Energetic and fresh this wine is approachable in its youth yet will age gracefully over the next decade.

TECHNICAL SPECS

COMPOSITION: 96% CABERNET SAUVIGNON,
4% PETIT VERDOT
APPELLATION: RED MOUNTAIN AVA
VINEYARD(S): CANYONS / BLACKWOOD CANYON VINEYARD
YEAR PLANTED: CANYONS - 2009
BLACKWOOD CANYON VINEYARD - 1983
MACERATION: 26 DAYS
AGING: 27 MONTHS
ALCOHOL: 15.32%
TOTAL ACIDITY: 6.6 G/L TA
PH: 3.74
PRODUCTION SIZE: 563 CASES / 6,756 BOTTLES
WINEMAKER: PHILIPPE MELKA