

MERCER BROS.

CHARDONNAY

AVA: HORSE HEAVEN HILLS, COLUMBIA VALLEY

VINTAGE: 2019



Nearly fifty years ago the Mercer family planted the first wine grapes in the Columbia Valley's Horse Heaven Hills, on land our great-grandfather settled in 1886. We strive to maintain Willis Mercer's independent spirit in our wines, grown predominantly from these original vineyards - tended by us, made by us.

- Will Mercer & Rob Mercer

WILL & ROB'S NOTES:

This Chardonnay opens with notes of fresh ripe pear and caramel apple surrounded by notes of vanilla cream and toasted marshmallow. A core of acidity keeps the wine fresh on the palate to help balance its rich and buttery midpalate.

ESTATE VINEYARDS:

The grapes for this wine come from two of the best sites in the Horse Heaven Hills; Eagle and Plow Vineyard and Zephyr Ridge Vineyard.

GROWING SEASON:

The 2019 vintage was cooler which allowed for evening ripening and flavor development. This lent to great acidity and fresh fruit aromas. The consistent temperate conditions allowed for an elegant style of grape maturation.

WINEMAKING:

The grapes were harvested in the very early hours of the morning so they would arrive to the winery cool. Once at the winery, the grapes went directly to the press where the juice was gently pressed away from the skins. The juice was allowed to cold settle for two days before racking. The juice was inoculated with a Chardonnay specific yeast and allowed to ferment cool over 30 days. A portion of the blend was fermented in barrel to add rich mouth feel and complexity. We inoculated the barrels for malolactic fermentation to help contribute to the creamy mouth feel while preserving the bright natural acidity. All of the barrels were hand stirred throughout malolactic fermentation, further adding to the roundness in the mouth feel.

TECHNICAL NOTES:

Appellation: Horse Heaven Hills
Blend: 100% Chardonnay
Alcohol: 13.9%
T.A: 0.33 g/100 ml
pH: 3.88
RS: Dry