



GOLD HILL

2018 merlot

2018 started out cool and wet. Budbreak was delayed and canopy growth once it started was very vigorous, requiring significant labour to control. The summer started hot and dry and then turned to one of the coolest falls as we went through veraison. Long, dry and warm conditions arrived in October allowing the fruit to fully ripen but with much higher acidity and bright fruit flavours. Overall, the vintage finished strong with classic Okanagan ripeness.

Our 2018 Merlot is an example of the best expressions one can achieve in Okanagan vineyards. Merlot does very well in the south Okanagan, expressing excellent structure from phenologically developed tannins with bright acidity. Merlot clone 181 on 3309 rootstock was picked in October, then sorted in the vineyard to remove any damaged berries or non-grape material. Once at the crush pad, it was destemmed, and then partially crushed. The must was allowed to slowly warm up, while cold soaking, allowing wild flora to start fermentation on the surface of the must. At 18 C, the must was inoculated and fermented between 26 and 28 C. Daily pump-overs allowed full development of the tannins. Before the ferment finished to dry, the young wine was transferred to barrel where it aged a further 18 months.

This wine is soft and lush with aromas of sage and lily and flavours of dried Okanagan cherry, dried raspberry and cigar box. The finish is plush and lengthy with superb balance. Aged for 18 months in barrel and then bottle-aged for another 5 years, this wine is ready to drink. Sensuous and luxurious, enjoy now or cellar until 2033.



GRAPE VARIETIES	100% MERLOT
PRODUCTION SIZE	113 CASES
ALC	13.2%
SWEETNESS	DRY – 1.4 G/L
AGING	DRINK NOW TO 2033
REGION	OLIVER
SOIL TYPE	STONY, LOAMY STONY SILT
AGE OF VINES	13 YEARS
CLONE / ROOTSTOCK	MERLOT ENTAV CL 181 / 3309 ROOTSTOCK
HARVEST DATE	OCTOBER 2018
BOTTLING DATE	AUGUST 2020
UPC	626990277415
SKU 750ML	+58834

GOLD HILL WINERY
3502 FRUITVALE WAY
OLIVER, B.C. V0H 1T1

T 250.495.8152
F 250.495.5385
INFO@GOLDHILLWINERY.COM

GOLDHILLWINERY.COM