

## THE ESTATES 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon



### Overview

In 1997, we planted our first vines in the Eastern Washington AVAs of Columbia Valley and Wahluke Slope. At first glance, Eastern Washington is not your typical wine country. It's a remote, windswept, high desert dotted with sagebrush and tumbleweeds. But our family had been farming here since the mid-1950s and we believed the region's moderate temperatures, low rainfall and sandy soils were ideal for grapes. To help with the planting and farming, we hired well-respected viticulturist, James McFerran. Eight years later, after selling our fruit to many of Washington's preeminent wineries, we hired veteran winemaker Gordon Hill to produce wines from the best blocks. Today, we farm 13 distinct estate vineyard sites totaling nearly 1600 acres.

### Vineyard

Our 2006 Estates Cabernet Sauvignon features fruit from our Northridge and Clifton Hill vineyards in the Wahluke Slope AVA of Eastern Washington. Established in 2006, the Wahluke Slope is a sub-region within the Columbia Valley appellation. Located midway between Seattle and Spokane it is bordered by the Columbia River to the southwest and Hanford Reach National Monument to the east. With its dry, temperate climate and porous, low-nutrient soils, the Wahluke Slope is gaining recognition as one of the finest AVAs in the state.

### Wine

For our 2006 Estates Cabernet, winemaker Gordy Hill selected lots from some of his favorite blocks at our Northridge and Clifton Hill vineyards. He also blended back small amounts of Petit Verdot and Malbec for color, depth, plumpness and complexity.

The wine is dark garnet and filled with blackberries, cassis, vanilla, maple and smoke. The flavors are intense and the tannins are soft and polished. With its deep fruit and generous mouth-feel, this is textbook Wahluke Slope Cabernet.

<b>Composition</b>	Cabernet Sauvignon (79%), Petit Verdot (14%) Malbec (7%)
<b>Vineyards</b>	Northridge (55%), Clifton Hill (45%)
<b>Alcohol</b>	14.2%
<b>TA</b>	0.56
<b>pH</b>	3.74
<b>Cases</b>	1,284

"Individually, we're just Butch and Jerry. But when we're working together, we're like one really talented person. This wine represents the best of both of us."

Butch and Jerry Milbrandt