



2007 Sentinel Red

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 second vintage of Sentinel comes from our 92-acre Northridge Vineyard in 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. The climate here is warm enough during the day to fully ripen grapes, yet cool enough at night to ensure bright acids and firm tannins. Northridge is a south-facing site set above the floods of 10,000 years ago. Its ancient soils give us some of our most concentrated and complex wines.

Wine

We created Sentinel to express the personality of a single terroir. Often a blend of varieties and produced only in exceptional vintages, Sentinel shines a spotlight on the climate, topography and geology of one great site. As with its predecessor, our 2007 Sentinel comes from the ancient soils of our Northridge Vineyard. A blend of Bordeaux varieties, it is dark, ripe and jammy with cherries, blackberries and plums. The palate is both muscular and silky with cassis, maple, cedar and vanilla. This is a large, velvety wine that will stand up to beef, pork, lamb, pastas with red sauce or strong cheeses.

Wine Statistics

Composition	63% Cabernet Sauvignon 25% Merlot 6% Petit Verdot 6% Malbec
Vineyards	100% Northridge
Alcohol	14.3%
TA	0.59
pH	3.61
Brix	27
Harvest Date	10/02/2007
Yeast	Premier Cuvee
Oak	14 months in Eastern European, French and American oak; 100% new
Cases	400

“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*