

# **LONG HAUL**

Red Wine | Columbia Valley | 2020



# Winemaking Notes

The 2020 Long Haul is composed primarily of merlot from Ciel du Cheval and Klipsun vineyards on Red Mountain combined with merlot from Red Willow Vineyard in the Yakima Valley. Ciel du Cheval and Klipsun are two of the oldest vineyards on Red Mountain. These older vines produce small clusters with intensely flavored berries. Seventy miles to the west of Red Mountain, the vines at Red Willow have an average age of 25 years and are planted on ancient soils above the deposition of the Missoula floods. Red Willow merlot offers a savory aromatic profile with complex depth and power on the palate. The weather in 2020 was on the warm side, with elevated temperatures during July, August, and early September. This weather pattern accelerated ripening and harvest began more than a week ahead of schedule. The wine was fermented in a combination of 1.5, 2 and 5 ton open top fermenters for 7-10 days and was then lightly pressed to barrel, where it finished primary and malolactic fermentation and was aged for 21 months in 54% new French oak.

# **Tasting Notes**

The 2020 Long Haul opens with licorice and fresh herbs highlighted by black plum fruits. The strong secondary notes on the nose continue into the palate, where the 2020 Long Haul is a meaty merlot with both red and blue fruit flavors backed by notes of cedar and black pepper.

#### BLEND

71% Merlot 19% Cabernet Franc 6% Cabernet Sauvignon 3% Malbec 1% Petit Verdot

#### **BARREL**

54% new French Oak, 46% used French Oak 21 Months in Barrel

#### **PRODUCTION**

1,869 Cases

#### **RELEASE**

October 2022

#### **APPELLATION**

Columbia Valley

## **MATURITY WINDOW**

2022-2035

## **VINEYARDS**

Ciel du Cheval Klipsun Red Willow

## PAST ACCOLADES

2019 – 94 Jeb Dunnuck 92 Wine Enthusiast

2018 – 93 Wine Enthusiast 92 Jeb Dunnuck

2017 – 93 James Suckling 92 Wine Enthusiast

2016 – 93 Jeb Dunnuck 92 Wine Spectator

2015 – 94 Jeb Dunnuck 92 Tanzer

Founded in 1999 by Mark Ryan McNeilly, MARK RYAN WINERY produces limited quantities of highly-sought after wines, crafted intentionally for their quality and potential. We partner with vineyards of the highest merit to produce an award-winning lineup that represents our winemaking style and authentic varietal character. Our passion to produce the best wines possible inspires us to make these wines for you.