

2017 Merlot Sauvignon

**ANDREW
WILL**

In 2017 we decided that the merlot from Champoux has long been established and that we should recognize that on the bottle. Hence the creation of a full new line-up of single vineyard wines featuring our signature grapes.

The 2017 vintage started out with a cool spring which was an extension of the preceding cool, wet winter throughout Eastern Washington. This meant that both bud break and bloom took place behind some of the more recent warm vintages. July and August warmed up with temperatures higher than average leading to a typical harvest time of mid-September for the first grapes. By the end of September, the temperatures started to cool down allowing for extra hang time and a more extending harvest window. The 2017 Vintage is already shaping up to be vintage with a focus on elegance and freshness.

Reviews:

(90 Points)... A pure expression, the 2017 Merlot Champoux Vineyard embodies the heart of the Merlot, with velvety red fruit, a soft floral nose and subtle plum and sage tones. Medium to full-bodied on the palate, it has a good structured core and grippy tannins that support the vibrant expression and lively freshness, followed by a lingering finish with nuances of subtle oak spices, plush black cherries and dusty plums. Anthony Muller – Wine Advocate

(90 Points)...Black cherries, currants, chocolate, and spicy notes emerge from the 2017 Merlot Champoux Vineyard. It's a charming, medium-bodied rounded, nicely textured, pleasure-bent effort to enjoy over the coming 5-7 years. Jeb Dunnuck - Jebdunnuck.com

Composition: 100% Merlot

Vinification: Indigenous yeasts, fermentation in stainless steel tanks using a Pulseair for cap management, no filtering, no fining, minimal SO₂

Vineyard: Champoux (~130 acres total, sustainable farming, handpicked fruit, vineyard manager = Dan Nicholas)

AVA: Horse Heaven Hills AVA, Washington State, USA

Average Age of Vines: 21 years

Time in barrels: 19 months (20% New French Oak, 80% Neutral French Oak)

Bottling Date: March 2019

Release Date: May 2020

Total Production: 146 Cases

ABV: 14.5%

