



HIGHTOWER
CELLARS

HANDPICKED

HANDSORTED

HANDMADE

2005 Merlot

Columbia Valley

Washington State

- 83% Merlot
- 11% Cabernet Sauvignon
- 6% Cabernet Franc
- 77% Red Mountain, 17% Horse Heaven, 6% Walla Walla

Our 2005 Merlot is a delightful garden of flavors – there are floral hints of geranium and rose wrapped up with darker red fruits around a core of characteristic Red Mountain mineralness. This wine’s weight, balance and pervasive fruit character on the nose, palate and finish are further proofs towards the generally held belief that 2005 will prove to be one of Washington’s best.

The grapes for this wine were handpicked and handsorted to ensure that only the best grapes were used. We fermented the fruit in small open-top containers no taller than they are wide to extract greater flavor and color by having more juice in contact with the grape skins. After gently pressing the wine from the skins the wine aged in small oak barrels for twenty months. During barrel aging we gravity racked the wine off its lees with a siphon. Separate lots were blended and bottled in the summer of 2007.

We produced 238 cases