

# Matthews

## 2021 COLUMBIA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON



The 2021 Matthews Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is comprised of several small vineyard parcels within the greater Columbia Valley, with key vineyard sites in Horse Heaven Hills, Red Mountain, and Royal Slope AVA's as well as the famed Conner Lee vineyard. This wine truly represents the broad flavor and aromatic expressions of Cabernet Sauvignon from the diverse terroirs of Washington State. The new winemaking team worked with our vineyard managers to update our viticultural practices, reducing yields (on average) by 30% for each site. These restricted yields created small, concentrated berries. Further vineyard dedication meant we were able to harvest between 3-6 weeks later than previous vintages. This allowed each site to fully develop the proper ripeness and flavor profile we were looking for.

Each vineyard was hand-harvested in the early mornings between late September & early October, cultivating on October 28th for our last pick. Upon arriving at the winery, each vineyard parcel was hand-sorted, de-stemmed, and berry-sorted. The grapes were placed in tank and cold soaked for 2 days, before undergoing a 14-day fermentation and an additional 14 days of extended maceration, resulting in 32+ days on skins for maximum extraction and integrated tannins. The wine was celled for 19 months in new French oak (25%) and used French oak (75%). In the spring of 2022, we selected 302 barrels to be carefully selected and blended. The wine was bottled in June, producing only 7,364 cases.

Twenty-two separate clones were included in the final blend (Cabernet Sauvignon: 2, 4, 6, 8, 15, 21, 31, 169, 191, 337, 338 Merlot: 2, 3, 6, 15, 18, 181 Cabernet Franc: 1, 214, 327 Malbec: 4 Petit Verdot: 1).

*"Precise and expressive, with handsome flavors of blackberry, bay leaf and espresso that build richness and structure toward refined tannins."*

93 PTS, TIM FISH, WINE SPECTATOR

*"A wonderfully balanced Cabernet with tremendous purity of fruit and a brilliant freshness. A blend of sites across the Columbia Valley focused on the Horse Heaven Hills, Red Mountain and Royal Slope. Smoky violet notes and crushed stone follow graphite minerality and dusty berries. The palate is delightfully distinguished. Cabernet and savoury herbs mingle with red berries, black brambles, and a brilliant mineral tone."*

94 PTS, CLIVE PURSEHOUSE, DECANTER

1	Columbia Valley AVA	Conner Lee
2	Horse Heaven Hills AVA	Phinny Hill, Milts, Wallula Gap
3	Red Mountain AVA	Red Mountain, Quintessence, Tremasi
4	Royal Slope AVA	Solaksen, Stillwater Creek, Stoneridge, Laura Lee, Scarline
5	Wahluke Slope AVA	Desert Wind
6	Walla Walla AVA	Pheasant Run
7	White Bluffs AVA	Dionysus, Bacchus

AVA	Columbia Valley
Varietals	76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot, 1% Malbec
Fermentation	100% Stainless steel fermentation, spending 30+ days on skins for extended maceration
Aging	19 months in 25% new French oak, 75% used French oak
Alcohol	14.9%
Cases	7,364
Best Between	Now-2035
Retail	\$50

