

Matthews

2021 ROYAL SLOPE CLARET



The 2021 Matthews Royal Slope Claret is a meticulously crafted wine from several vineyard parcels within the Royal Slope AVA of the Columbia Valley. Key sites include Solaksen, Stillwater Creek, and Scarline Vineyards, allowing this Cabernet Sauvignon-dominant blend to showcase the diverse flavors and aromatic expressions of the region.

The winemaking team collaborated with vineyard managers to limit yields, resulting in small, concentrated berries. Cool fall nights preserved freshness while enhancing flavor development. Hand-harvesting occurred in the early mornings of October.

At the winery, the fruit underwent cluster sorting, de-stemming, and berry-sorting. For maximum flavor extraction, the wine was fermented and kept in tank for 30+ days to extend the maceration time with the aim of encouraging deeper textural layering. After this extended maceration, the wine was cellared in various formats of new 100% new French oak.

After 21 months of cellaring, 13 carefully blended barrels produced only 315 cases of this pure, vibrant, and intense Claret, which was bottled unfined and unfiltered. 8 different clones were used in the final blend: Cabernet Sauvignon clones 2, 4, 191, 337, Cabernet Franc clones 214, 327, Malbec clone 4, Merlot clone 15.

“The amazing 2021 Matthews ‘Royal Slope Claret’ Red Wine is already drinking beautifully despite its youth. It comes off layered aromatically with baking spices, cocoa powder and shades of boysenberry puree on the nose. The palate is refined and smooth, showing good flavor density and solid underlying finesse. Flavors mocha, tar and black currants all meld together, finishing long with minerals, dark fruits and chocolate.”

- 95 POINTS OWEN BARGREEN, OWENBARGREEN.COM

SELECT VINEYARDS

1	Royal Slope AVA	Solaksen
2	Royal Slope AVA	Scarline
3	Royal Slope AVA	Stoneridge

AVA	Royal Slope
Varietals	54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc, 7% Malbec
Fermentation	Each parcel was hand-sorted from the vineyard, with gentle fermentation and extended maceration culminating over 30+ days
Aging	Cellared in 100% new French oak for 21 months
Alcohol	15.0%
Cases	315
Best Between	Now – 2040
Retail	\$145

