



TA: 0.52 g/100mL

PH: 3.79

ALCOHOL: 14.8%

BLEND:

100% Merlot

## HORSE HEAVEN HILLS

### 2017 Canoe Ridge Estate Merlot

#### VINTAGE NOTES

- The 2017 growing season was cooler and crop yields were significantly lower in comparison to the past two vintages.
- The lower temperatures delayed ripening and helped to retain fresh fruit aromatics and mouthwatering acidity.
- Despite cold winter conditions, 2017 gave us concentrated wines with classic Washington state character.

#### VINEYARD NOTES

- 100% of the blend came from Canoe Ridge Estate vineyard in the Horse Heaven Hills AVA.
- Warm, sunny days and cool evening temperatures create ideal conditions for intense aroma and flavor development in the ripening grapes.
- Canoe Ridge Estate vineyard is LIVE and Salmon Safe certified.

#### HISTORY NOTES

- Established in 1934, Chateau Ste. Michelle pioneered vinifera grape growing in Washington State.
- The winery owns 3,500 acres in the Columbia Valley of eastern Washington, including Horse Heaven, Canoe Ridge Estate and Cold Creek vineyards.
- Chateau Ste. Michelle's award-winning wines can be found in all 50 states and more than 100 countries worldwide.

#### WINEMAKING NOTES

- Daily gentle pumpovers during fermentation help extract optimal flavor and color.
- Each fermentation lot is tasted daily to evaluate the evolution of the tannins in order to find the right moment to drain the wine off skins.
- Aged for 18 months in 54% new French oak, and 11% new American oak.

#### TASTING NOTES

“This stunning vineyard sits on a south-facing wind-swept slope high above the Columbia River. Heat throughout the growing season is moderated by the strong wind patterns while cool nights provide optimum conditions for flavor development. Complex and elegant wine with focused flavors and silky elegant tannins.” – Kari Smasne