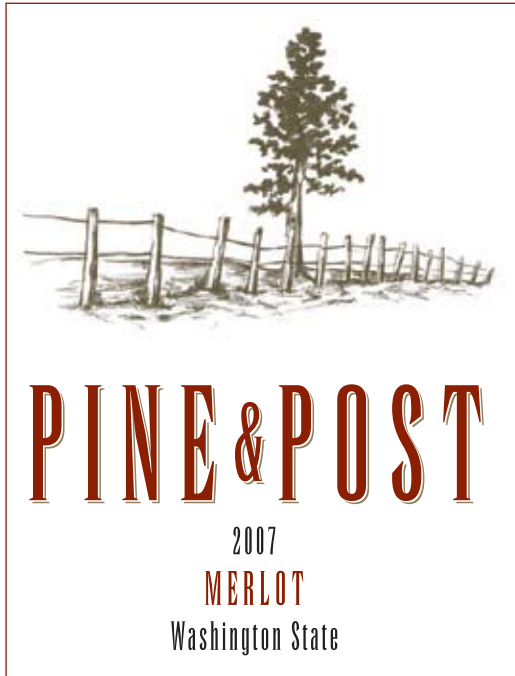


2007 Merlot

Washington State



Washington State

Washington's success with vinifera is due in large measure to the state's unique geography. The vineyards are planted on the east side of the Cascade Mountains, which serve to protect the region from marine weather off the Pacific coast and limit rainfall to just 6 - 8 inches annually. Low rainfall and free-draining soils allow vineyard managers to control vine vigor in order to promote flavor development in the grapes. Warm daytime temperatures ripen fruit to perfection. Cool autumn nights protect the grapes' natural acidity.

Vintage Notes

Washington State's growing season showed average temperatures throughout the year. 2007 began with high temperatures creating smaller canopies, allowing more light penetration, resulting in outstanding flavor development. Hot summer weather led to cooler conditions mid-September creating ideal harvest conditions. Cooler temperatures continued through October allowing for longer hang time and more developed fruit flavors. The 2007 vintage of wines will be well-balanced, smooth tannins with an abundant of flavors.

Tasting Note

A full bodied Merlot with bursting notes of cherry, mint and Thai basil. The well balanced palate gives way to married flavors of blackberry, cherry, sweet tobacco and cedar box. A fine grained tannin structure is rounded out with lingering notes of berry on the finish.

Variety Blend

75% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc,
4% Lemberger, 4% Syrah, 2% Sangiovese

Bottling

pH: 3.45
TA: 0.58
Alc: 13.50%

