

# CANVASBACK®

## 2020 RED MOUNTAIN MERLOT CIEL DU CHEVAL VINEYARD

With ideal soils and a dry desert climate, Red Mountain produces some of the most compelling and distinctive red wines in the New World. One of the region's oldest and most renowned vineyards, Ciel du Cheval was established in 1975, and for decades it has been the source for some of Red Mountain's most extraordinary bottlings. This barrel selection of our finest lots from Ciel du Cheval offers a classic expression of Red Mountain, combining layers of blackberry, Kirsch and violet with hints of graphite and crushed-rock minerality.

### VINTAGE NOTES

A cold, dry winter on Red Mountain was followed by an equally cool spring, which led to a slightly later-than-normal budbreak and bloom. Following mid-June rains that significantly reduced the size of the crop, the weather turned hot in July and August, and we began picking our Syrah, Merlot and Malbec the first week of September. While the outbreak of wildfires in Oregon was a concern, after travelling more than 200 miles to Red Mountain, the impact of the smoke was minimal, and we were careful to exclude any impacted grapes. Instead, the driving characteristic of the vintage was the low yields, which despite the cool weather allowed the grapes to get beautifully ripe, producing wines with dark colors, plush creamy textures and rich, vibrant flavors.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

With pure, soaring aromas of raspberry, Kirsch and strawberry preserves, as well as sophisticated notes of slivered almonds, sagebrush and bay leaf, this lavish Merlot draws you in. On the palate, it is voluminous and expansive, with supple, fine-grained tannins and a lush, creamy texture adding length and richness to lovely layers of ripe red berries and potpourri that culminate in a graceful, lingering finish.

### WINEMAKING

<b>APPELLATION</b>	Red Mountain
<b>VINEYARD</b>	Ciel du Cheval Vineyard
<b>VARIETAL COMPOSITION</b>	82% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Sauvignon
<b>OAK PROFILE &amp; AGING</b>	Aged 16 months in 100% French oak 50% new oak, 50% neutral oak
<b>KEY COOPERS</b>	Nadalie, Boutes
<b>ALCOHOL</b>	14.5%
<b>PH</b>	3.74
<b>ACIDITY</b>	0.55 g/100 ml
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>	Sourced from 20 year old Merlot vines. Produced tiny berries more similar in size to Cabernet Sauvignon, leading to amazing concentration of flavor and tannins.



THE DUCKHORN PORTFOLIO



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