



# MISSION HILL

FAMILY ESTATE

## 2020 RESERVE MERITAGE

*An Uncompromising Expression of the Okanagan Valley.*

### VINTAGE REPORT

Average Okanagan spring temperatures began the 2020 growing season with periods unusually cold and wet weather. Colder periods progressed into the early spring contributing to a marginal fruit set, but as the season progressed into the summer months we regained our highly celebrated Okanagan conditions. The consistently warm weather following the spring was essential for encouraging healthy vine growth, even flowering and a healthy fruit set. The dry, warm and hot summer produced good growth permitting all varieties to ripen with excellent balance and incredible flavour intensity. The ripening (veraison) period was near perfect as a result of the warm and dry summer conditions extending through autumn and into the fall and our 2021 harvest concluded on October 30, marking a short, but beautiful vintage in the Okanagan.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

Our 2020 Reserve Meritage was grown in two of our estate vineyards - Black Sage Bench in Oliver, and Osoyoos. Black Sage Bench is an incredibly diverse vineyard with more than 60 different individual blocks. This affords us an amazing array of premium quality fruit. Osoyoos, the region's most southern area, is comprised of arid benchlands that benefit from the lake's effect providing the region with more than 200 frost-free days. This warm climate allows our Bordeaux varietals to completely ripen for full flavour.

### TASTING NOTES

Fresh blackberry, brambleberry, dark cherry and hints of vanilla with a fresh and structured finish.

**VARIETAL** | 42% Cabernet Franc, 34% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot, 7% Petit Verdot

**APPELLATION** | Okanagan Valley BC VQA

**ESTATE** | 63% Black Sage, 37% Osoyoos

**MATURATION** | Aged in French and American oak barrels

**ABV** | 14%    **TA** | 6.0 g/L    **PH** | 3.66



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