



# MISSION HILL

*Family Estate*

## 2017 RESERVE MERLOT

*An Uncompromising Expression of the Okanagan Valley.*

### VINTAGE REPORT

The 2017 harvest, lasting 66 days, was one of extremes. The harvest started later than anticipated, with a cool, wet spring. However, a record-breaking dry spell followed in July and August, with temperatures well above seasonal norms. This warm, dry summer resulted in a crop of small, concentrated berries that should produce wines of exceptional depth and intensity. The harvest concluded on October 30, yielding a crop reminiscent of the incredible 2009 vintage.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

Our 2017 Reserve Merlot was grown in two of our estate vineyards. 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. The Oliver Vineyard estate is a diverse vineyard with more than 60 different individual blocks, affording us an amazing array of premium quality fruit.

### TASTING NOTES

Full-bodied and well structured, with wild blackberry, plum and hints of dark cherry on the nose. Elegant palate, with lingering notes of ripe fruit supported by balanced tannins.

**VARIETAL** | 100% Merlot

**APPELLATION** | Okanagan Valley BC VQA

**ESTATE** | Osoyoos (54%), Oliver (46%)

**HARVESTED** | October 2017

**MATURATION** | 15 months in French & American oak

**ABV** | 14.9% **TA** | 5.8 g/L **PH** | 3.67

