

2016 helix merlot

Bacchus Vineyard, Columbia Valley AVA

description

Thanks to plenty of summer heat and a late September cooling trend, 2016 delivered big-bold upfront fruit.

This Merlot possesses a dark ruby color. A blast of boysenberry and macerated cherry rushes the nose, immediately evolving into rich, black fruit featuring plum, currant and black cherry with hints of dark chocolate, vanilla, and sweet Asian spice. A silky mouthfeel and lively acidity introduce plum, cassis, black cherry, and brown spice to the palate with cocoa and Italian roast coffee bean. Its plushness, dark flavors and finish intensify as the wine opens. ~Chuck Reininger, Winemaker

technical information

Blend: 96% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Sauvignon

Cooperage: 96% American, 4% French (32% new oak)

Alc.: 14.3%

pH: 3.56

TA: 6.6g/L

Bottling Date: August 2018

Production: 96 cases

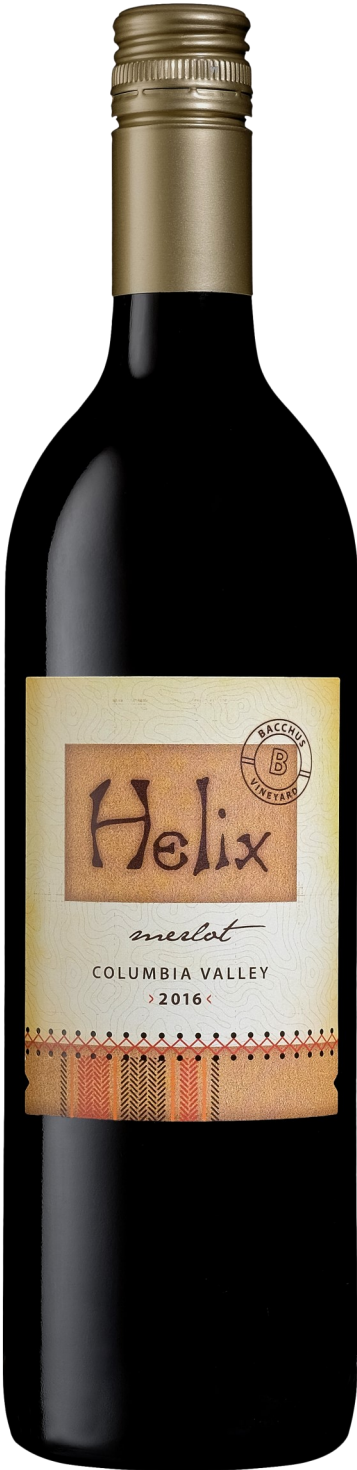
Release Date: November 2019

Drink Between: 2019-2025

the vineyards

BACCHUS Location is an extremely important factor in growing high quality grapes, and Bacchus Vineyard is situated on one of the finest sites in the state. One of five vineyards now managed by Sagemoor Vineyards, Bacchus is located near Pasco on a southwest facing hillside with dramatic views of the Columbia River below.

The Merlot that comes in from Bacchus vineyard is always the earliest ripening Merlot we have as well as one of the first grapes to hit our crush pad each harvest. According to Chuck it's always so much fun and a great way to start off each vintage. Generally speaking, Bacchus' Merlot has beautiful color intensity, notes of cherry and nice round medium-plus tannins. It's the most flavorful and intense Merlot we source from the Columbia Valley.



helix wines – more to explore

Helix Wines are the culmination of a long, storied family history in the Washington and Oregon wine and agriculture industries and a reflection of our family's belief that farming and winemaking is all about discovery. Helix wines are produced by the same family who create REININGER at our Walla Walla Valley winery. Named for a farmstead in Helix, Oregon, where our grandparents met, married, and farmed, Helix is truly a reflection of our family's pioneering background and strong sense of place. Since the first Helix vintage in 2002, our goal is to explore the diverse and unbounded Columbia Valley and to see for ourselves what the Columbia Valley vineyards are capable of producing.