



## 2012 Traditions Cabernet Sauvignon

### Overview

In 1997, we planted our first vines in the Eastern Washington AVAs of the Columbia Valley and Wahluke Slope. At first glance, Eastern Washington is not your typical wine country. It's a remote, windswept, high desert dotted with sagebrush and tumbleweeds. But our family had been farming here since the mid-1950s, and we believed the region's moderate temperatures, low rainfall and sandy soils were ideal for grapes. Eight years later we started producing our own wines from the best vineyard blocks. Today, winemaker Joshua Maloney is handcrafting an award-winning spectrum of Milbrandt Vineyards wines from across our renowned estate vineyards.

*-Butch & Jerry Milbrandt*

### Vineyards

Our bottling of 2012 Traditions Cabernet Sauvignon is comprised of grapes harvested from our Wahluke Slope vineyards in the heart of the Columbia Valley. At most of our Wahluke Slope sites, the vines are planted on south-facing slopes to increase sun exposure in the summer and promote air circulation in the winter. The weather in 2012 was typical of the Columbia Valley: a mild winter and a warm, dry spring. It was warm enough during the day to fully ripen grapes, yet cool enough at night to ensure bright acids and firm tannins. Director of Viticulture Jason Schlagel commented, "The 2012 harvest was probably one of the best I've seen."

### Tasting Notes

Our 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon is smooth and rich with classic aromas of dark cherry, blackberry, dried herbs and hints of vanilla and espresso. This wine is dense with chewy tannins on the mid-palate giving way to a touch of vanilla and toast on the lingering finish.

### Words from our Winemaker

"Our Cabernet Sauvignon is dark, velvety and complex with layered flavors of black cherry, blackberry, cassis, mocha and a hint of dried savory herbs. A perfect example of why Cabernet is "King" in Washington."

*-Joshua Maloney*

<b>Composition</b>	85% Cabernet Sauvignon 6% Merlot 5% Malbec 2% Cabernet Franc 2% Petit Verdot
<b>AVA</b>	Columbia Valley
<b>Vineyards</b>	Wahluke Slope Katherine Leone Sundance Purple Sage Clifton Clifton Bluff
<b>Harvest Date</b>	October 2012
<b>Alcohol</b>	13.5%
<b>pH</b>	3.9
<b>TA</b>	5 g/L
<b>Aging/oak</b>	100% barrel aged in 20% new French & American oak