

Composition 100% Malbec

AVA Wahluke Slope

Vineyard 100% Northridge

Harvest October 2012

**Alcohol** 16.00%

**TA** 6.30 (g/L)

**pH** 3.67

Aging/oak 18 months in 50% New

French Oak Barrels

Cases 76



# 2012 Vineyard Series Reserve Malbec

#### Wine is an expression of place

We created our Vineyard Series with the idea that each wine be handcrafted to reveal the unique characteristics of our estate vineyards on the Wahluke Slope. With rigorous vineyard management and meticulous winemaking, we highlight the singularity of each individual vineyard. Established in 2006, the Wahluke Slope AVA has gained a reputation as a premier grape growing area known for its long sunny days, cool nights and distinctive terrior. The Milbrandt family is among the pioneers of this region, producing wines of typicity with rich complexity and textural elegance.

-Butch & Jerry Milbrandt

### **Vineyard**

The 2012 Reserve Malbec comes from the Northridge Vineyard on the Wahluke Slope. The climate here is one of the warmest in the state; hot during the day to fully ripen grapes, yet cool at night to ensure bright acids and firm tannins. The Northridge Vineyard is a south-facing site with ancient soils that rests in the foothills of the Saddle Mountain range above the floodplain from the last great ice age more than 16 million years ago.

## **Tasting Notes**

The 2012 Reserve Malbec is filled with aromas of blueberries, white pepper, westone, with hints of black licorice and plums. The palate is dense, round with an incredibly rich midpalate, followed by prounounced yet polished tannins, and an exceptionally long, pleasing finish

#### **Words from our Winemaker**

"I make Malbec from Northridge every year, but this is the first vintage that produced something of such extraordinary complexity, depth and power that I felt it would be criminal to blend it away. It's rare that everything aligns so perfectly to make a wine of such distinction, which is why I chose to bottle it alone. Enjoy this limited production while you can because it may not happen again for a while."

-Joshua Maloney