

Composition 100% Malbec

AVA Wahluke Slope

Vineyard 100% Northridge

Harvest October 22, 2013

Alcohol 15.5%

**TA** 6.10

**pH** 3.56 (g/L)

Aging/oak 18 Months in

Neutral Oak Barrels

Cases 94



### 2013 THE ESTATES NORTHRIDGE MALBEC

#### 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, after selling fruit to many of Washington's preeminent wineries, 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 our renowned estate vineyards.

-Butch & Jerry Milbrandt

## Vineyards

The ancient soils of the Northridge Vineyard make this one of the most unique sites in the Columbia Valley. One of the highest vineyards on the Wahluke Slope, sitting at just under 1,000 ft. in elevation, it rests in the foothills of the Saddle Mountain range with a south sloping aspect Untouched by the Missoula Floods, the site rests above the flood plain created by the glacial melting during the last ice age. The soils are shallow, fine wind blown sand atop an alluvial fan gravel bed. It is becoming known as one of the premier red varietal vineyards in Washington State.

# **Tasting Notes**

Our 2013 The Estates Northridge Malbec has aromas of wet stone, blueberries, white pepper, with hints of black licorice and plum. This wine has a dense, round, and incredibly rich mid-palate with pronounced yet polished tannins, followed by an exceptionally long pleasing finish.

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

'Malbec thrives in Eastern Washington's high desert climate. The 2013 Estates Northridge Malbec is impeccable with dark, rich color and round, supple tannins. This wine is full bodied with intense ripe flavors upfront, and a velvety, smooth long finish."

-Joshua Maloney