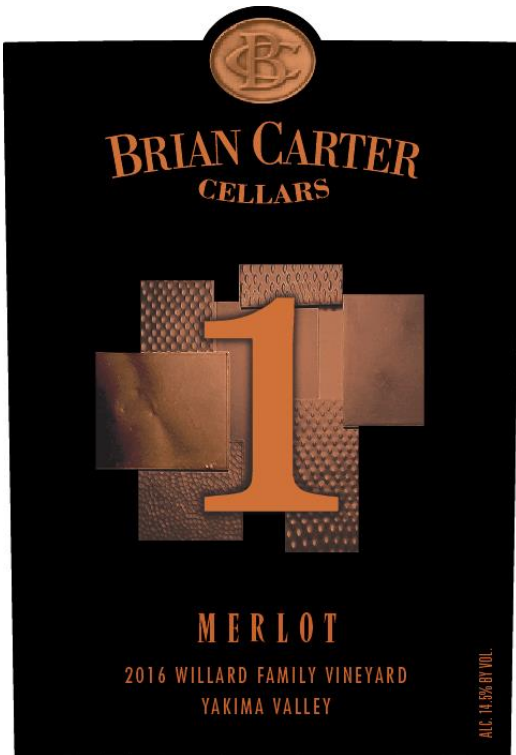




2016 Merlot
Willard Family Vineyard
Yakima Valley AVA

While I have been buying old block Merlot from owned and managed by Jim Willard for over 30 years, and using it in many of my blends, the quality of the 2016 gave me reason to bottle four barrels of this wine on its own for the ONE program. This wine is an outstanding example of what this variety can do here in Washington State. Having tasted Merlots from all over the world I maintain that Washington has the best expression of Merlot fruit from anywhere.

Tasting Notes: This wine is dark garnet in color. The complex bright fruits include blackberry, raspberry and orange with hints of earth and toasted oak. The palate has bright acidity with just the right hints of tannin for aging and a balanced lengthy finish. Drink with red meat or chicken served with a reduced wine and blackberry sauce.



Grape Varieties & Vineyard Sources

100% Merlot
Willard Family Vineyards, Yakima Valley

Oak Aging

20 months in French oak, 40% new & 60% used (1-4 years)

Analysis at Harvest

October 27, 2016
Brix 26.1
TA 0.47%
pH 3.45

Analysis at Bottling

July 11, 2018
Residual Sugar <0.1%
TA (%) 0.60%
pH 3.63
Alcohol 14.5%

Release Date

August, 2021

Case Production

100 cases

Brian D. Carter
Winemaker

“Sometimes, one wine must stand on its own”