

# TERRA BLANCA

*Arch Terrace*

## 2019 ARCH TERRACE MERLOT

98% Merlot | 2% Cabernet Sauvignon

### NOTES

"Aromas of red fruits, cedar, rose petal, and spice rise out of the glass. This leads to core flavors of black cherry layered with nuances of red and black currant and dried cherry on the palate. The vibrant acid and finely integrated tannin structure provide the framework allowing this Merlot to rival most Cabernet Sauvignons."

*- Keith Pilgrim*

**Keith Pilgrim**

Owner/Winemaker



### VINEYARD

Terra Blanca Estate Vineyard, Red Mountain  
*Salmon Safe Certified*

### GROWING CONDITIONS

2019 began with record breaking snowfall in early February that led to over two feet of accumulated snow (with drifts of over 10 feet) at our Red Mountain vineyard, amazing for an area that normally only gets 6 inches of total moisture. The snow persisted through much of March, delaying the start of pruning until the end of the month. The delayed start gave us only 4 weeks to prune what normally takes 10 weeks, so we were a little busy trying to keep up with mother nature in April!

Bud break began in late April, but the temperatures were warmer than normal in May and early June leading to a fairly normal bloom. The summer was warm but not hot and there were an abnormally high number of cloudy and somewhat humid days, both not typical for an inland desert. The moderate temperatures along with the high number of cloudy days slowed the development of the grapes as much as six weeks from some of the warmer growing seasons we have had recently. Harvest began in mid-September for the whites, and all of the red grapes were harvested between October 3rd and October 9th (whew). Most areas in Eastern Washington experienced a very hard freeze on the morning of October 10th, which resulted in over 30% of the Washington State wine grape crop not being harvested. The combination of our warmer Red Mountain site, low cropping of vines, and our winery able to accept all the grapes very quickly with enough tankage for all of the reds at the same time allowed us to bring in the entire crop successfully.

With the age of the vines, the concentration of the fruit, and the cooler growing season, this is a vintage of wines that we expect to have a long lifespan of elegance and power that the vineyard typically produces.

### WINEMAKING

Fermentation in closed tanks with a variety of yeast types and some multiple yeast fermentation help to create wines with huge fruit flavors and fine well integrated tannins. Aged for 24 months in French oak barrels. Blending with a small amount of Cabernet Sauvignon adds complexity and a longer finish. Wines were bottle aged for over 12 months prior to release.

### BOTTLE

Alcohol by Volume - 14.5%  
pH - 3.72  
Titratable Acidity - 0.575g/100ml  
Production - 3,360 cases