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## 2007 Klipsun Vineyard Merlot

### VINTAGE

Due to an unusual spring heat wave just before bloom, berries were smaller than average in 2007, adding concentration and flavor to the grapes. Good set after bloom, ideal summer conditions, followed by the Columbia Valley's typical fall weather pattern of warm days and cool nights, ripened grapes slowly and evenly. The resulting wines have excellent natural acidity and deep, intense flavor.

### VINEYARDS

Among the great vineyards of Washington State, Klipsun ranks right at the top. *Wine & Spirits Magazine* recently named it one of the 25 greatest vineyards in the world. Located in the Red Mountain appellation, it produces wines with great power, depth, and concentration. The wines from this vineyard tend to be very long-lived.

### WINEMAKING

After destemming and crushing, grapes were fermented in small lots for an average time of eight days. After being pressed off, each lot of wine was moved to predominately new French oak barrels for 18 months of barrel aging during which time the wine was raked every 3-4 months.

### TASTING NOTES

This well-structured, medium-bodied Merlot shows lots of raspberry, vanilla and spice notes in the nose that complement rich black fruit and cocoa flavors in the mouth. Generous in texture and length, it should continue to improve with age for the next 8-12 years.



### ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Total Acidity ..... | 0.53g/100ml                         |
| pH.....             | 3.68                                |
| Blend... ..         | 94% Merlot<br>6% Cabernet Sauvignon |
| Cases.....          | 287                                 |
| Bottling Date.....  | June 16, 2009                       |

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker