

Milepost Merlot 2021

A bright, energetic, and flavourful Merlot.

The Milepost Merlot is the avatar of a season. Starting in 2011 we began to make this wine selectively in singular years that showed intrigue and promise. With low intervention winemaking and a light touch in the field, the Milepost Merlot changes from season to season, always reflecting the nature of the year that it's grown in. In 2021, that nature was bright, elegant, and extremely graceful.

Tasting Notes

Deep burgundy to a cherry-red rim, nice and clean. Nose shows red currant, red licorice and cranberry on the nose, a hint of toastiness and bramble fruit. Palate has good structure, dry with nice acidity. Finishes with spice and heat, but this might be because of the elevated alcohol level. A great value bottle that will match well to Mexican food, include crema and lots of fresh vegetables, oaxaca cheese, and Pasta Dishes!

Production Notes

Harvested October 2, 2021, very early for Merlot and Milepost in general. The year was unusually hot, with several heatdomes producing a wine with a slightly higher alcohol percentage. The Milepost is mainly sourced from our 347 clone merlot. This clone will typically provide bounteous fruit in tight clusters, deeply delicious, but thinner skinned. All of this contributes to the Milepost being a flavourful wine with great color and clarity and more supple tannins. We make this to be immediately drinkable and a great showcase for the ripeness and flavour profile we get from our estate fruit.

24 hour soak before yeasting, then 4 weeks on the skins with twice-daily pumpovers. Pressed in November to neutral French oak. Minimal racking and SO2 adjustment, 12 months in barrel.

The Golden Mile Slopes Sub-GI

This Geographical Indication, called the Golden Mile Slopes, is a smaller area defined for regional labelling with BC VQA. So, the fruit picked in 2021 can be labeled in a more specific way that references the unique quality of the Golden Mile Slopes: soils defined by glacial till, ancient riverbeds, and cooler average temperatures on an east-facing toe slope close to the Golden Mile Bench.



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Vintage: 2021

Varietal: Merlot, 347 Bordeaux Clone

Cases Produced: 460

Acid: 5.6g/L

pH: 3.8

Residual Sugar: 3.3 g/L

Alcohol %: 15.5

Barrel: 12 months in completely neutral French Oak

About the Winemaker

Melissa Smits became the head winemaker and vineyard manager for Intersection in 2016. She was trained at Niagara College and has worked in vineyards across the World. Her focus, today, is on creating nuanced wines that truly reflect a sense of place. In the vineyard and winery, it's all about working to express what's already there in the fruit, intervening, when necessary, with skill and a deft touch.

Recipes and additional information can be found at www.xwine.ca!