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# ★ SKYFALL ☾

## VINEYARD

MERLOT  
2016

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### Background

Skyfall Vineyard is named for the massive car-sized boulders scattered among the vines that literally look like they fell from the sky. These boulders were brought by Missoula glacial floods of the last Ice Age that cut the Columbia River. Floods deposited silt loam soils now layered with ancient volcanic ash. The complexity of these soils is ideal for cultivating optimal flavors in the grapes, making Skyfall a perfect vineyard site.

### Appellation

Columbia Valley, WA

### Sourcing

60% Yakima Valley, 40% Horse Heaven Hills

### Varietal Composition

82% Merlot, 10% Syrah, 8% Cabernet Sauvignon

### Winemaking

The grapes were picked at the peak of ripeness during the early morning to preserve maximum fruit expression. Once picked, the fruit was de-stemmed, crushed and cold soaked for 24-48 hours until optimal color extraction was reached. The wines were put in stainless steel tanks for malolactic fermentation and then aged for 8 months. The blend was then assembled and allowed to co-mingle for 30 days prior to bottling.

### Tasting Notes

Wonderfully developed plum, vanilla and leather aromas swirl in the glass. Juicy flavors of cherry candy coupled with hints of cocoa powder weave through the palate. Balanced acidity and polished tannins on the finish.

### Technical Data

pH 3.85  
TA 5.37 g/L  
RS 2.18 g/L  
Alc. 13.93%

### Winegrower

David Minick