

2005 Columbia Valley Merlot

The Merlot varietal is one of Washington's shining stars! Kiona's 2005 vintage is full-bodied and balanced with complex fruit and ample oak. No sense in drinking a "Cabernet-Drinker's Merlot" when this "Merlot-Drinker's Merlot" is so tasty!

Winemakers	Scott Williams and Glen Fukuyama
Appellation	Columbia Valley (100% Red Mountain)
Total Acidity	0.675
pH	3.62
Alcohol	13.5%
Barrel Treatment	40% New French and American Oak 60% Diverse Blend

About the Wine –Kiona's 2005 "Columbia Valley" Merlot is actually 100% Kiona Red Mountain fruit, including blocks that range in age from 10 to 30 years old. These vineyards consistently produce some of Washington's most sought-after Merlot. Using only free-run juice, we fermented this wine in small lots with two different yeasts before putting it into a selection of barrels we have found to age the wine gracefully. 24 months later, Kiona's 2005 Merlot evolved into a rich, smooth drinking wine with enough structure to stand up to hearty foods or longer-term bottle storage.

Tasting Notes – The spicy oak complements a dense core of dark plum and black cherry fruit. This is very much an expression of Red Mountain with plenty of earth coming through and well-defined (but not overbearing) tannins.

SILVER - Los Angeles International Wine & Spirits Competition
SILVER - Grand Harvest Awards, CA
SILVER - Tasters Guild
BRONZE - American Wine Society, Pittsburgh, PA
BRONZE - Dallas Morning News Wine Competition
BRONZE - Northwest Wine Summit, Timberline, OR
BRONZE - West Coast Wine Competition, CA



Regarded as one of the foremost growing areas in the world, Washington State's famed Red Mountain Appellation was pioneered by the Williams family of Kiona, who first planted vines there in 1975. Three proud generations of winemaking and viticultural excellence contribute to Kiona's success.