

BROWNE

FAMILY VINEYARDS

Inspired by the greatness of one man: William Bitner Browne, grandfather of proprietor Andrew Browne. Integrity and excellence are the standards upon which Browne wines are created. Browne Family is premium Washington wine, 15 years in the making before its first vintage debuted, crafted with the utmost quality and enjoyment in mind.

“A TRIBUTE TO MY MOTHER.”

- Andrew Browne



2014 MERLOT

VINTAGE NOTE

The 2014 Washington State harvest proved to be spectacular with a record crop level and excellent quality. All factors needed for success came together perfectly: cool nights, lots of warm weather in the growing season, and rain limited mostly to the shoulder seasons. Harvest started the third week of August and wrapped in the second week of November. The crop across the state was heavy, yet bountiful with quality. Our vineyard team enjoyed weather that enabled them to pick at will, affording perfect flavor, acidity and sugar levels.

WINEMAKING

The fruit for Browne Family was harvested at the peak of Phenolic ripeness and tested on the vine for flavor and structure. Once harvested, all grapes were handpicked into small ½ ton bins and immediately de-stemmed. The winery “crusher,” used to de-stem fruit was removed to maintain 70% whole berries during fermentation. This allowed for great extraction of color and increased the maturity of tannins making the wine more approachable. After pressing occurred, primary fermentation was completed in stainless steel. The new wine was then transferred to 59-gallon French Oak casks; selected for their intense Merlot varietal characteristics and to balance the fruit tannins. The Browne Family 2014 Merlot was barrel aged for 23 months.

TASTING NOTE

Bright red rope licorice with plum compote to start. This wine is elegant and approachable with violet aromas mixed with raspberry preserves. Fantastic mouth-watering acidity balances out the creamy texture, this is a classic “old world” style Merlot that will only get better and better over time.

CELLARING

Crafted as a cellar worthy wine; enjoy now or cellar for up to ten years.

2012 – 90 POINTS, *Wine Spectator*

2011 – 92 POINTS, *Tasting Panel*

BLEND

100% Merlot

APPELLATION

Columbia Valley

GRAPE SOURCE

Mirage, Waterbrook Estate

VINTAGE

2014

WINEMAKER

John Freeman

HARVEST DATE

Sept. 22–29, 2014

YEAST

Pasteur Red, *Andante*

AGED

23 months

OAK

46% New French oak,
54% second- to fourth-use
white oak

BOTTLED

September 2, 2016

TA PH

6.6 g/l 3.56

ALC.

13.7%

CASES PRODUCED

500