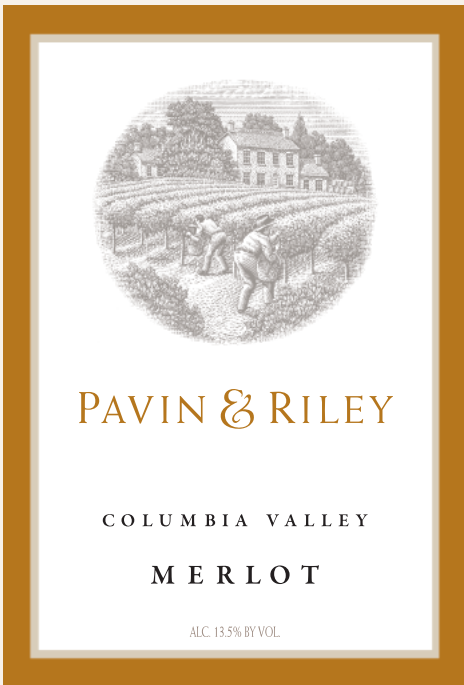




# PAVIN & RILEY

2 0 0 6 M E R L O T

*The Pride of the Family*



## Columbia Valley

The Columbia Valley first began growing classic European grape varieties in the 1950s but it was the rich, supple Columbia Valley Merlots of the early 1990s that established Washington's penchant for the variety. Many consider Merlot to the Columbia Valley's signature grape. It thrives here under warm, sunny summer skies, and the area's low annual rainfall (typically 6 - 8" annually) allows vineyard managers to limit vine vigor which in turn concentrates flavors in the grapes.

## Vintage Note

The 2006 growing season in the Columbia Valley presented a year of extremes in weather. The spring was wet and cooler than normal leading into a long, hot summer. Summer provided ideal conditions of dry weather, warm days and cool nights. Harvest began early, with some white grapes picked in late August. A cooler period in Mid-September slowed things down and allowed more hang time for enhanced flavor development.

## Tasting Note

Wonderful notes of coffee, spice and ripe strawberries dance around the glass. Rich black cherry, plum and stone fruit are rounded out by cedar and integrated oak.

## Variety Blend

94% Merlot  
3% Syrah  
3% Cabernet Franc

## Bottling

TA: 0.53  
pH: 3.45  
Alcohol: 13.5%