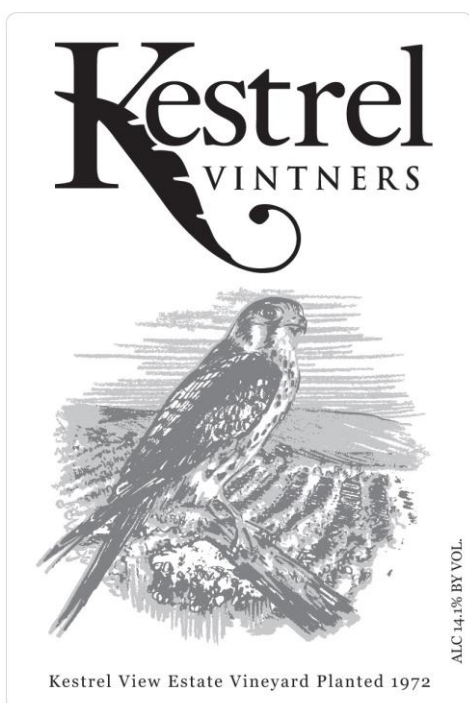




## 2011 Old Vine Merlot



### SIGNATURE SERIES

OLD VINE MERLOT

WASHINGTON STATE | YAKIMA VALLEY

*Ripe black cherry, red currant, raspberry, cocoa, black pepper, caramelized sugar and dried herbs*

#### Vinification:

One hundred percent of the grapes from our Old Vine Merlot were harvested from Kestrel View Estate Vineyard. The grapes were planted in 1972 making them some of the oldest Merlot vines in the state. They were hand harvested and carefully sorted to remove any defective fruit, stems or leaves. It was then de-stemmed and crushed into open top fermenters, where it was punched down, twice daily to extract the maximum color and flavor. These old vines are something special. They produce small intensely flavored crops, small canopies and small berries. The resulting wines are concentrated and elegant, with silky smooth tannins. After 22 months aging in small French Oak barrels and 22 months aging in the bottle we feel this gem is ready for your table.

#### Winemaker's Notes:

The color is a rich purple-plum. This intensely aromatic wine boasts cherry, elderberry, and black currants. The fruit elements are balanced by cola, vanilla, cocoa, and tea. The finish is elegant and refined, allowing sweet ripe fruit flavors to repeat and linger. We always say this is a Cab-lover's Merlot. It is perfect balance of elegance and Masculinity bound by supple tannins.

**Blend:** 100% Old Vine Merlot

**Vineyard Source:** Kestrel View Estate Vineyards

**Pairings:** Meat

"I MAKE WINE FOR BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND MONDAYS."

– Flint Nelson, winemaker

509 | 786 | CORK (2675)