



# 2017 Platinum Desert Ridge Merlot

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Desert Ridge, on the western edge of Osoyoos Lake, was created with stones left behind by retreating glaciers. Stony vineyards are extremely rare, and extremely difficult to farm. As the vines struggle and our tools break, we persist. The stones radiate heat back up giving us intensely concentrated Merlot grapes. We know through experience we need to age this wine for 18 months in hand-selected French barrels, to highlight the intensity of our stoniest vineyard.

## THE VINTAGE

A wet spring led to a later start, however, the 2017 season was hotter and more compressed than normal. The season brought smaller berry size, clusters and yields. Fruit quality was excellent, characterized by high flavour concentration, moderate alcohol, balanced tannins, complexity and natural acidity.

## TASTING NOTES

*Violets, plums and anise on the nose. Fine tannins and nice weight on the palate, supported by cocoa and dark cherry characters. An excellent balance between ripeness, finesse, and elegance.*

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

<b>HARVEST DATE</b>	October 21 – 31, 2017
<b>BLEND</b>	97% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon
<b>FERMENTATION</b>	Stainless Steel, 30 days on skins
<b>AGING</b>	17 months in French Oak barriques
<b>CASES PRODUCED</b>	573 six-bottle cases
<b>ALCOHOL</b>	14.6%
<b>TOTAL ACID</b>	6.1 g/l
<b>RESIDUAL SUGAR</b>	0 g/l
<b>PH</b>	3.75
<b>CELLARING</b>	Enjoy now or cellar until 2027

