

## Sparkman Cellars Holler Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley USA 2020

Selected by: Master Sommelier Evan Goldstein, Master Sommelier Madeline Triffon, and Master Sommelier Tim Gaiser



### Final Deductions

**VINTAGE** 2020

**GRAPE** Cabernet Sauvignon/  
Blend

**GEOGRAPHY** Not Europe

**COUNTRY** USA

**LARGER REGION** Washington

**SMALLER REGION** Columbia  
Valley

### Rationale

Washington State's celebrated Columbia Valley is situated between latitudes 46°N and 47°N, the same as the famed French wine region of Bordeaux. A contributing factor to the quality of her Cabernet based wines. Whether that's the key reason or not, there is no arguing that this region overachieves with Cabernet Sauvignon, the best examples being typified by stellar examples from Red Mountain, the Walla Walla Valley and Horse Heaven Hills.

The Columbia Valley AVA accounts for 99% of the wine-growing acreage in Washington State, and is the largest viticultural area in Washington, covering more than a third of the state landmass. If you're into bold, fruit-forward red wines and good values, then you're going to love the Columbia Valley. Cabernet here is characterized with plush fruit forward flavors paired with sweet-tart acidity and balanced tannins. Expect notes of cherries, currants, cassis, and ground, dried herbs enveloped usually with balanced oak and well executed tannin management- hence the round and creamy textures found uniformly. The wines of the region have been described as having the potential to combine the structure and finesse of the Old world wines with the approachable fruit and ripeness of the New World style.

Before becoming a winemaker/owner, Chris was the best GM in the city of Seattle (this author's opinion), overseeing the dining room and wine list of the Waterfront. Leaving the floor in the early 2000's, he has put the same attention to detail into his wines and has been a quality driver for the state ever since.

### Sight

**BRIGHTNESS** Day Bright

**CLARITY** Clear

**COLOR DEPTH** Medium

**COLOR** Ruby

**RIM VARIATION** Ruby  
*Stained Tears: Low*

### Structure

**RESIDUAL SUGAR** Dry

**ACID** Med+

**ALCOHOL** High

**TANNIN** Med+

**TEXTURE** Round / Smooth

**FINISH** Med+

**COMPLEXITY** Med+

### Aroma & Taste

**RED FRUIT** Red Currant • Cherry / Red Tomato • Red Plum • Red / Sour Cherry  
*Condition: Ripe, Jammy / Candied*

**BLACK FRUIT** Black Cherry • Black Currant / Cassis • Black Plum • Blackberry  
*Condition: Ripe, Jammy / Candied*

**FLORAL** Lavender • Violet *Condition: Fresh, Dried*

**GREEN VEGETABLE** Dark Leafy Greens

**OTHER VEGETABLE** Mushrooms (Brown) • Peppers (Red/Yellow) • Fennel / Anise • Olive (Black) • Cola Nut

**HERBAL** Tea Leaf / Bergamot • Basil • Thyme • Tobacco Leaf • Laurel / Bay Leaf

**OTHER SPICES** Licorice (Black) • Chinese Five Spice • Paprika / Pimenton

**ORGANIC EARTH** Forest Floor • Turned Dirt / Potting Soil

**INORGANIC EARTH** Mineral / Rock • Graphite

**OAK AGING** Yes *Oak Intensity: Medium*

**OAK INFLUENCE** Caramel / Toffee • Cedar / Cigar Box • Cacao / Chocolate • Coffee / Bean • Vanilla

**OXIDATION/NUTTINESS** Pistachio • Walnut • Chestnut