



EARLY
MOUNTAIN

2017 Eluvium

*At the foot of Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, nature is at once graceful and fierce. Early Mountain wines are made here through a combination of ingenuity and true grit. We gently tend to every vine so the wine that emerges from the cellar is a clear descendant of the fruit at harvest – a unique wine that respects its heritage while embracing evolution and adventure. **Virginian through and through.***

Blend: 72% Merlot, 26% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Sauvignon **SRP:** \$55

Winemaker Note: Quaker Run Merlot stars in Eluvium, grown in both the West and East Blocks on the slope. From some of our oldest vines, this Merlot contributes density and aromatic purity; presence and persistence with fine grain tannin. Petit Verdot in the blend contributes structure, depth, and power. We return to a lower percentages of PV, with the power of the vintage, and good yields across the board. This vintage brings the wonderful combination of higher than usual tannins that are quite ripe and supple, giving a wine that is both age-able and able to be enjoyed in its youth.

Description: On the nose the fruits are dark and layered with plum, black cherry and blackberry accentuated by mint, cedar and wood spice. On the palate the flavors echo the aromas; Eluvium is structured and layered with ample and persistent tannin. On release it is showing its youth and will continue to soften and develop as it ages in bottle.

Aging / Cellaring: Aged 17 months in French barrique, 40% new and a year in bottle prior to release.

Aeration recommended. Should develop and drink well from 2021-2030 if properly cellared.

In the Vineyard:

2017 was a welcome and accommodating growing season. We saw warm temperatures in March, but after one close call, were lucky to avoid any significant frost events in the spring. Early rainfall throughout the beginning of the season gave way to a dry summer, unlike many we have seen in Virginia. Our warm days and cool nights created a diurnal shift that allowed for ideal ripening conditions, gaining high sugars, while also preserving vibrant acidity in the fruit. Unlike many Virginia harvests, we had the luxury of "waiting" to pick because the customary rains held off.

Vineyard Blocks: Quaker Run Vineyard (Merlot, Petit Verdot, and Cabernet Sauvignon), Shenandoah Springs Vineyard (Petit Verdot), Chisholm Vineyard (Petit Verdot)

Technical: Cases produced: 482 Bottled: March 5, 2019

Yeast: Ambient Alcohol: 14.6% pH: 3.68

TA: 6.1 g/L RS: Dr