



### **Basalt Cellars 2007 Merlot**

**Platinum:** The Clarkston area in southeastern Washington has a long history of grape growing and winemaking, but all that ended with Prohibition and didn't reappear until Basalt Cellars opened its doors in 2004. The grapes for this wine — which include 11% Cab — come from three vineyards, leading with Willard Farms in the Yakima Valley. The resulting wine opens with aromas of hibiscus and Bing cherries, followed by flavors of moist earth, spice, sweet chocolate and ripe cherries. It's beautifully structured throughout. Won gold at the San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition. (224 cases, 14.2% alc.)

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