E A R L Y
M O U N T A I N

2015 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: 82% Merlot, 17% Petit Verdot, 1% Cabernet Franc

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, building a complete picture.

Description: On the nose the fruits are dark with plum and blackberry accentuated by mint, cedar and wood spice. On the palate the flavors echo the aromas; structured and layered with ample and persistent tannin.

Aging / Cellaring: Aged 18 months in French barrique and a year in bottle prior to release.

Aeration recommended.   Should develop and drink well from 2018-2027 if properly cellared.

Food pairing: Red meat. A wood-grilled steak with a hunter's sauce would pair brilliantly with the firm tannins of the wine.

In the Vineyard:

2015 began with very cold winter temperatures and early spring showers. Though the summer saw normal levels of precipitation, the latter portion of the growing season was warm and dry, leading to significant rain events later in the fall. The fruit for the components of this wine was picked prior to major rain events, resulting in high quality grapes for the wine.

Vineyard Blocks: Quaker Run Vineyard, Highland Orchard Vineyard

Clone/Rootstock: Merlot 181, 101-14; Merlot 3, 101-14

Technical:	Cases produced: 387	Bottled: 3/30/17	
	Yeast: Ambient	Unfiltered	Alcohol: 13.9%
	pH: 3.6	TA: 5.99 g/L	RS: Dry

Accolades: Gold Medal, Governor's Case 2018 Virginia Governor's Cup