NOVELTY HILL

2019 Syrah

TASTING NOTES

"Balanced and expressive, with generous, lively layers of dark plum, wild blueberry and fresh blackberry aromas and flavors off-set by appealing hints of black pepper and exotic spice. Rich and mouth-filling, the refined tannins linger across a savory finish."

- Mike Januik, Winemaker

VINTAGE

The 2019 growing season started slowly with cool temperatures extending into late spring, but the weather warmed as summer progressed and the vines achieved August veraison dates in keeping with a typical year. As a result of cooler than average temperatures earlier in the season, crops were thinned during the summer. Careful vineyard management helped support even ripening into the fall, a season marked by cooler temperatures yet again. But the grapes enjoyed the added hang-time that allowed the fruit to achieve physiological maturity, resulting in wines notable for their excellent natural acidity, concentration and flavor.

Vineyard

Novelty Hill's Columbia Valley Syrah relies on the winery's Stillwater Creek estate vineyard to produce a consistent, high-quality wine vintage-after-vintage. Planted in 2000 on a steep, south-facing hillside on the Royal Slope of the Frenchman Hills, the vineyard quickly earned a reputation for top quality grapes and is particularly well-known for its selection of premium varietal clones, including Syrah I, 99, 174 and Joseph Phelps. Syrah from select blocks of Weinbau and Gamache vineyards completes the final blend, enhancing the savory, dark fruit flavors of the finished wine.

Winemaking

- Hand-picked and fermented in small lots
- Crushed, de-stemmed, fermented and gently punched down 2-3 times a day to extract deep color and flavor without harsh tannins
- Gravity-racked every 3-4 months
- Aged 18 months in 30% new, 50% used French oak barrels and 10% new, 10% used American oak

AVA Columbia Valley

Blend I00% Syrah

Cases 2,141

Alcohol I4.4%

pH 3.79

Total Acidity 0.52 g/100 ml

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noveltyhillwines.com