

NOVELTY HILL

2019 Il Corvo

Tasting Notes

“A Super Tuscan-style blend, this brightly colored, medium to full-bodied wine bursts with vivid aromas and flavors. Bing cherry, blackberry jam, ripe plum, and baking spices gain focus across a lively, textured mid-palate that offers just the right amount of mouth-watering acidity. If you are a fan of Novelty Hill’s estate-grown Sangiovese, you will recognize the defining character of this grape in Il Corvo.”

- Mike Januik, Winemaker

Vintage

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

Vineyard

Sourced from two Cab powerhouse vineyards, the 2019 Il Corvo relies on Cabernet Sauvignon from Stillwater Creek, Novelty Hill’s estate vineyard on the Royal Slope of the Frenchman Hills, and Red Mountain’s Quintessence Vineyard. The estate Cab gives Il Corvo structure and vibrancy; Quintessence Cabernet contributes dark fruit, concentrated power, and bold tannins. Stillwater Creek Sangiovese adds classic wild berry and spice to the finished blend. A small amount of Stillwater Creek Vineyard Merlot rounds out the mid-palate and adds a touch of sweetness.

Winemaking

Inspired by the Alberg family’s love for Italy’s Super Tuscan wines and winemaker Mike Januik’s work in the mid-1990s with the Antinoris, one of Tuscany’s great wine families.

- Twice-daily pump-overs gently extracted color and flavor from the grapes during early fermentation
- Fermentation finished in barrels to integrate the fruit and oak
- Gravity racked to soften and clarify the wine
- Aged 22 months in 30% new, 50% used French oak and 10% new, 10% used American oak barrels

Blend 48% Cabernet Sauvignon
48% Sangiovese
4% Merlot

Cases 574

Alcohol 14.4%

pH 3.72

Total Acidity 0.54 g/100 ml

AVA Columbia Valley

noveltyhillwines.com

