# NOVELTY HILL 2016 Malbec, Stillwater Creek Vineyard

## TASTING NOTES

"A richly aromatic, full-bodied wine with ripe cherries, juicy berries, and dark plum aromas and flavors that gain intensity on the palate and linger across a mouth-filling finish."

- Mike Januik, Winemaker

### VINTAGE

The 2016 growing season got off to a fast start with warm spring temperatures that resulted in an early bud break. Temperatures continued to climb steadily into early summer then cooled slightly to slow growing conditions perfectly throughout July and August. Fall temperatures were moderate, easing the ripening pace just enough to extend hang time, develop full flavors in the grapes, and yield delicious wines that are both powerful and refined with purity of flavor and balanced acidity.

### VINEYARD

Varietal bottlings of Columbia Valley Malbec continue to gain a following, and Novelty Hill's estate vineyard, Stillwater Creek on the Royal Slope of the Frenchman Hills, is leading the way. Through careful vineyard management and innovative clonal selection, this steep, south-facing vineyard has earned a reputation for high quality grapes, including Malbec.

#### WINEMAKING

- Hand-picked and fermented in small lots
- Gentle pump overs during fermentation helped extract color and flavor while yielding soft, supple tannins
- Gravity racked every 3-4 months
- Aged 22 months in a combination of new and used oak barrels; 75% French, 25% American

AVA	Columbia Valley	
Blend	95% Malbec 3% Cabernet Sauvignon 2% Merlot	NOVELTY HILL Malbec Stillwater creek vineyard Columbia Valley 2016
Cases	383	
Alcohol	14.4%	
pН	3.66	
Total Acidity	0.58 g/100 ml	
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