NOVELTY HILL 2017 Cascadia

Tasting Notes

"A rich, Cabernet Sauvignon-dominate blend with dark fruit aromas framed by espresso and toasted spice. Ripe and full on the palate, wild blackberry and black cherry are woven around a core of supple, textured tannins that give way to a stylish, focused finish."

Mike Januik, Winemaker

Vintage

Spring 2017 was marked by cool, wet weather that resulted in a late bud break, but hot, dry summer conditions accelerated the season and put ripening back on track. Clusters were small with fewer berries than usual allowing light to penetrate the vine and color the fruit from all sides. This, combined with a cooling weather pattern in mid-September to extend hang time, yielded fresh, expressive wines with plenty of structure and excellent acidity.

Vineyards

In 2017, Sagemoor Vineyard's old vine Cabernet Sauvignon proved to be the ideal base for Cascadia, a Bordeaux-style blend assembled each year from the best lots of the vintage. This southwestern sloping site is located five miles north of Tri-Cities on the east side of the Columbia River. These old, and often delicate vines, resulted in complex, elegant wines in 2017. A small amount Novelty Hill's Stillwater Creek estate vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon contributes to Cascadia's bright mid-palate. Stillwater Creek Merlot, with its dark, saturated color and perfumed aromatics, adds complexity and richness. Stillwater Creek Malbec is a beautiful blending partner, adding intense color and enhancing the finished wine's mouthfeel.

Winemaking

- Handpicked grapes were pumped over during fermentation to extract color and flavor while avoiding harsh tannins
- Fermentation was finished in barrels to integrate the fruit and oak
- Gravity racked to soften and clarify the wine
- A careful selection of the finest lots of the vintage were chosen to achieve a seamless assemblage of color, aromatics, texture and length
- Aged 21 months in 40% new, 40% used French oak barrels, with the remainder in half new, half used American oak

AVA Columbia Valley

Blend 81% Cabernet Sauvignon

17% Merlot 2% Malbec

Cases 274

Alcohol I4.4%

pH 3.78

Total Acidity 0.56 g/I00 ml

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