

NOVELTY HILL

2021 MALBEC, STILLWATER CREEK VINEYARD

TASTING NOTES

“A ripe, stylish wine offering fresh strawberries, wild blackberries, dark plum and spicy undertones. The flavors gain focus on the palate, then linger across a richly textured, refined finish.”

- Mike Januik, Winemaker

VINTAGE

Growers and winemakers will remember the 2021 vintage for outstanding quality grapes that produced age-worthy wines with concentration and balance. In a year marked by low yields, grapes were deeply colored, flavorful, and intensely textured despite extreme summer weather. The season got underway in early April. Warm conditions lasted throughout the spring, then a record heat event in late June and early July sent temperatures soaring. The hot weather persisted throughout the summer, and just when it seemed the heat would never let up, temperatures cooled in late August. Fall weather was made-to-order, with the Columbia Valley's typical pattern of warm days and cool nights setting the stage for perfect ripening conditions.

VINEYARD

Varietal bottlings of Columbia Valley Malbec continue to gain a loyal 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 20 months in a combination of new and used oak barrels; 30% new French oak; 45% used French oak; 10% new American oak, 15% used American

AVA	Royal Slope
Blend	85% Malbec 15% Cabernet Sauvignon
Alcohol	14.4%
pH	3.69
Total Acidity	0.54 g/100 ml
Cases Produced	457

noveltyhillwines.com

