

TERO

ESTATES

2012 Hill Block Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley AVA | 134 Cases Produced



Vineyard

Windrow Vineyard is the oldest commercially planted vineyard (1981) in the Walla Walla AVA. Talks to create the appellation happened on this soil. Situated on a bench created by thousands of years ago where Lower Dry Creek empties into the southern Walla Walla Valley, Windrow has a rare combination of heat during the day followed by a cool breeze flowing out of the Blue Mountains in the evenings. This diurnal shift allows us to grow our grapes until later in the season, increasing maturity while retaining enough acidity to maintain balance and structure. Ellisford Silt Loam is prevalent in this part of the Walla Walla Valley AVA. Windrow varies from deep deposits of windblown loess to shallow layers over gravelly cobble.

Hill Block was planted in 1998, making it our youngest of the Cabernet vines at Windrow. At 3.8 acres and a yield of 2.9 tons per acre, it has a row orientation of north/south and northwest/southeast as it wraps around the hill. With shallow soils that do not retain water, this is our thirstiest block. It has greater afternoon sun and takes the brunt of the wind, giving it thicker skins than our Plateau or Old Blocks.

Winemaking

After a very cold 2011, this vintage is touted to be one of the best in history. 2012 allowed the vines to ripen normally. The fruit could hang longer without worrying about things getting too ripe. That steady ripening also allowed for structure and elegance. The freshness of the fruit and acidity from the cool nights plus the concentration of color, tannins and richness because of the warm days makes the intensity remarkable. We got depth of color and flavor in an abundant crop that retained its desired acidity.

Tasting Notes

100% Windrow Vineyard Hill Block Cabernet Sauvignon.
This classic, old-world style wine opens with notes of earth, black fruits, leather, and mocha on the nose, leading into flavors of cassis, black fruits, caramel, and exotic spices on the palate with a rich, lingering finish.

Awards/Accolades

19.5/20 Points~Rand Sealey, A Review of Washington Wines