

TERO

ESTATES

2012 Windrow Blend
Walla Walla Valley AVA | 210 Cases Produced
\$45 Winery Retail



Vineyard

Windrow Vineyard is the oldest commercially planted vineyard 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.

Winemaking

Harvested from our estate vineyard all on the same day, this is a true field blend and is our flagship wine. The “Windrow” red wine is comprised of the same percentage of varieties that are planted in our estate vineyard, all co-fermented from day one. We harvest perfectly ripe Cabernet Franc, near-ripe Cabernet Sauvignon and slightly overripe Merlot and Malbec at once to co-ferment in a French oak tank. Acid retention from the former varieties, leads to structure and backbone while ripe phenolics and detailed lushness come from the latter. We use the same percentage that was the original planting in the field in the blend, echoing what would result if you were to harvest the whole vineyard in one day. It’s then cellared for 2 years in an Italian coppered 2000 liter French oak ‘Gamba’ cask, reducing the oak influence.

Tasting Notes

70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 6% Malbec. This blend of all the varieties grown in the Windrow Vineyard offers a deep, brilliant ruby color and rich aromas of blackberry, cherry and cassis, with scents of black roses, sandalwood, tobacco, cedar and spiced incense. On the palate, the black and red fruit flavors encompass the depth of the Cabernet Sauvignon (70%), the minerality of the Merlot (14%), the chewy texture of the Cabernet Franc (10%) and the darkness of the Malbec (6%), all underlain with notes of licorice, bittersweet chocolate, campfire coffee, and gravel and loess earth. The back reveals sensations of macerated berries, roasted chestnuts, dried cherries and graphite, followed by a lingering, savory, grainy tannin finish.

Awards/Accolades

19+/20 Points~ Rand Sealey, A Review of Washington Wines