

Malbec

LABEL: ROBERT WILLIS

AVA: HORSE HEAVEN HILLS

VIN: 2021



WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Elegant and powerful, this Malbec showcases velvety tannins and vibrant acidity. Tart black cherry notes lead the palate, layered with savory undertones of balsamic herbs and wet stone. The finish is focused, revealing the variety's finesse and the distinct character of Horse Heaven Hills. Pair with ossobuco.

VINEYARD SOURCING

The fruit for this wine is grown at our acclaimed Spice Cabinet Vineyard. Our Spice Cabinet Vineyard sits on a southeast slope above the Columbia River. The orientation of the block allows for morning sun exposure of the fruit, while avoiding the intense afternoon rays.

GROWING SEASON

The 2021 vintage was warmer than average. We experienced extremely high temperatures in June and July. The crop was lighter than expected with smaller clusters and lower numbers of berries. Mid to late October brought a lot of rain, but fortunately for us we were able to bring in all the fruit before the rain. Our 2021 vintage is highly concentrated and although a lighter yield year, it will be one for the books.

WINEMAKING

Harvest Date: October 11, 2021

Primary Fermentation: Stainless steel bins for 13 days with daily punchdowns for gentle extraction of color & balanced tannins.

Aging: 21 months in neutral barrels

Blending Date: August 16, 2023

Bottling Date: August 24, 2023

Drinkability: 2026-2031

TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation: Horse Heaven Hills

Blend: 75% Malbec, 24% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Merlot

Alcohol: 15.2%

T.A: 0.52 g/100 ml

pH: 3.95

ACCLAIM, VINTAGE 2021:

90 pts - Wine Enthusiast
93 pts - NY Int'l Wine Comp
Gold - Pacific Rim Wine Comp

ACCLAIM, VINTAGE 2019:

Sip's 11th Annual Best of the NW - Platinum
SF Chronicle - Gold
Seattle Wine Awards - Gold
James Suckling - 91pts
International Women's Wine Comp - Gold

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