

TERO

ESTATES

2010 Hill Block Cabernet Sauvignon

Walla Walla Valley AVA | 88 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 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.

Our Hill Block was planted in 1998, spans 3.8 acres and yields 2.9 tons per acre. Row orientation is varied- north/south to northwest/southeast as it wraps around the hill. Average elevation is 860 feet. 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.

Winemaking

2010 specifically was a cool early season with a warm spike right as we harvested. We had to drop tonnage in order to assure ripe fruit this year so yields were slightly lower than usual. Our last second heat spike really helped pump the grapes to ripe perfection. Of the trifecta, the Hill pick was the first pick. Due to the abnormal wind on this micro-site, the Hill Block always brings to the table more color and more tannins. When in the fermentation bin we always have to be mindful to maximize these characteristics while still retaining balance.

Tasting Notes

100% Windrow Vineyard Hill Block Cabernet Sauvignon. This 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.