

TERO

ESTATES

2010 Windrow Blend

Walla Walla Valley AVA | 216 Cases Produced

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. We harvest underripe cabernet sauvignon and cabernet franc and overripe merlot and malbec at once and co ferment in French oak casks. 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 new 500 liter Billion French oak puncheons.

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.

Tasting Notes

70% cabernet sauvignon, 14% merlot, 10% cabernet franc, 6% malbec. A classic BDX blend all from Windrow Vineyard. This year's blend is exceptionally well balanced with a seductive note of ripe raspberry and cherries. Hints of smoke and orange rind follow. The palate rewards with delicious flavors of ground white peppercorn, wet stone and earth.