

TERO

ESTATES

2012 ST

Columbia Valley AVA | 382 Cases Produced

Vineyards

The Sangiovese for this blend favorite comes from the Duggar Creek and Windrow Vineyard Vineyards. The Cabernet Sauvignon comes from Horse Heaven Vineyard. Windrow is the oldest commercially planted vineyard (1981) in the Walla Walla AVA. Situated 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.

Duggar Creek is a LIVE, Salmon Safe, Global Gap, and Vinea certified vineyard and is owned and operated by the Browns, a third generation WA farming family. On the southern end of the Walla Walla Valley, this site also has thick layers of loam and fantastic drainage, leading to concentrated fruit. It is a windy site that produces thick skins on all varieties resulting in high skin to juice concentrations.

Winemaking

This is our restaurant glass pour favorite. The sturdy backbone coupled with ripe cabernet notes make it approachable, not overpowering, but strong enough to balance against many dishes. The 2012 vintage made it so that the making of this wine was easier than other vintages, a welcome vintage after the 2011 difficulties. Tonnage was up by 30% and growing degree days were significantly higher leading to ripe fruit and lots of options. A total lack of rainfall meant uninterrupted harvesting choices and that the pyrazines were quickly cooked out. This particular blend benefited greatly from the warm mid-season so the Sangiovese could ripen while dropping some acidity.

Tasting Notes

57% Sangiovese, 43% Cabernet Sauvignon. This well-built wine opens with notes of succulent dark cherry and thyme, leading into a full palate of pomegranate and rhubarb with hints of leather. The wine has a long seductive finish with hints of pepper and spice.