

2021

HESTER CREEK



CABERNET SAUVIGNON



STORIED SERIES

Each of these small lot wines tell a unique story of its meticulous, sustainable viticulture, its distinctive terroir, and innovative and careful winemaking practices.

HARVEST & VITICULTURE REPORT

The 2021 growing season in the South Okanagan was one for the history books as the driest on record, due in large part to the “Heat Dome” and its record-breaking high temperatures. It was also one of the warmest years, seeing the most growing degree days GDD (1758) since 2015. Following flowering, we experienced an extremely dry and hot June during fruit set. The heat led to a lighter fruit set and smaller berry size than usual. While there was less fruit per vine and the yield was light in volume, on the upside the smaller berries in the clusters resulted in more concentrated flavours and colours on the red varieties. Similarly, for the white varieties there are intense flavours and vibrant aromatics. With the warm dry season, the grapes reached phenolic ripeness earlier than usual with harvest commencing and finishing early. We began picking the whites on August 27th for our Ti Amo (Prosecco-style sparkling wine). We started picking our first reds in mid-September with our Block 10 Merlot on September 14th at our historic Golden Mile Bench estate vineyard. We finished our last estate reds pick with Cabernet Sauvignon from Block 8 of our Golden Mile Bench vineyard on October 28, 2021. Overall, the 2021 harvest produced wines of outstanding quality and varietal character. We expect to see some intense, fruit driven wines, with excellent depth of flavour.

WINEMAKING

A beautiful reflection of our historic terroir, this wine’s story begins in Blocks 7 and 8 of our Golden Mile Bench estate vineyard. The vines receive limited irrigation which yields smaller, more concentrated berries that result in a deeply robust red wine. The grapes for this vintage were hand harvested and hand sorted before going through a gentle destemming process. The whole berries were cold soaked for three days in our Ganimede fermentation tanks for ideal extraction of aromatics and flavours before going through a 16-day maceration. Post maceration, the wine was gently pressed off and encouraged through a malolactic fermentation to create a smooth, round mouthfeel. This wine was aged for 16 months in 100% French oak barrels, 35% of which were brand new. After aging, the wine was racked, blended and bottled to produce only 556 cases.

TASTING NOTES

Our 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon opens up a depth of aromas filled with cassis, blackberry, an essence of light vanilla and a suggestion of fresh herbs. These aromas continue to the palate with fruit-forward blackberry and haskap berry wound together with vanilla and thyme to create a lovely, yet firm tannin structure. Pair this vintage with braised short ribs or strong-flavoured cheeses.

Harvest Date	October 27 & 29, 2021	Winery Price	\$34.99 (BC+tax)
Bottling Date	May 25, 2023	CSPC	388439
Grape Variety	100% Cabernet Sauvignon	UPC	626990222071
Vegan	Yes		
Aging	16 months		
Oak	100% French		
Ageability	Enjoy now or cellar up to 5 years		
Alcohol	13.7%		
Residual Sugar	0.7 g/L		
pH	3.8		
Total Acidity	6.1 g/L		
Brix at Harvest	25.4 average		
Availability	Wine Shop, Bench Club, online		