

2020

HESTER CREEK



WINEMAKER'S TRILOGY - X



WINEMAKER'S TRILOGY

Ultra-premium red wines that tell the story of Hester Creek's history and sense of place in the Okanagan Valley.

HARVEST & VITICULTURE REPORT

From a winemaking perspective 2020 was an exceptional vintage in the South Okanagan. Early spring started out colder than average but by mid-to-late June, temperatures were at or above average. Following a summer that began a little later than usual, September was very warm resulting in our vineyards seeing a smaller than average crop with smaller grape bunches. The vines benefited from a dry September, with a smaller berry size contributing to concentrated flavours. The warm weather in late September and early October enabled the grapes to reach ideal phenolic ripeness, with our white varieties all handpicked and fermenting in tank by the first week of October. Following a warm start to fall, the weather turned and we saw a rare snowfall and a freezing event in the valley on October 23rd. Fortunately, the majority of our red grapes were harvested by this time. From a temperature perspective, the 2020 vintage was the 5th warmest in growing degree days in the last 2 decades. Overall, the 2020 season delivered exceptional quality grapes of a smaller berry size with abundant ripe fruit and beautifully enhanced flavour profiles. It is a year where the quality will be talked about for years to come, producing wines that are cellar worthy.

WINEMAKING

The 2020 vintage of the Winemaker's Trilogy, X, is the first of a three-year passion project to showcase the best of the vintage. Starting with the fruit, we selected Petit Verdot and Malbec which were hand harvested on October 20th of 2020. The grapes were meticulously sorted and cold soaked for three days, after which, they were co-fermented with selected yeast strains. We blended the wine with the best Merlot from our historic estate property and allowed it to undergo a malolactic fermentation in French oak barriques. X was left unfiltered and unfiltered to bring out the rich, old-world style of this premium red wine, then aged exclusively in French oak for 29 months. This small-lot wine was bottled in May of 2023 for our Bench Club members.

TASTING NOTES

Lush and harmonious aromas of leather, dark cherry, blackberry, plum and sage envelop the senses as they lead into an opulent palate of sweet tobacco, spice, violet and star anise. The extended finish of jammy blackberry notes linger to create a premium wine experience. Pair the 2020 X with blueberry braised shortribs, golden beet polenta and parmesan reggiano.

Harvest Date	October 20 - November 1, 2020	Winery Price	\$100 (BC+tax)
Bottling Date	May 12, 2023	CSPC	268378
Grape Variety	63% Petit Verdot, 20% Merlot, 17% Malbec	UPC	696852043779
Vegan	Yes		
Aging	29 months		
Oak	100% French		
Ageability	Enjoy now or cellar up to 15 years		
Alcohol	14.7%		
Residual Sugar	0.5 g/L		
pH	3.8		
Total Acidity	7.0 g/L		
Brix at Harvest	26.4 average		
Availability	Bench Club		