

2023

HESTER CREEK



CHARACTER RED



FOUNDATION WINES

Our Roots Run Deep, with wines founded in great quality and value, born of this unique place in the Okanagan Valley.

HARVEST & VITICULTURE REPORT

The winter of 2022 set up less-than-ideal projections for 2023; however, the 2023 growing season at Hester Creek was everything that one could hope for in producing outstanding grapes for our wines. Growing Degree Days (GDD) reached 1835, making it the highest accumulation of GDDs for the months of April through August. Harvest began earlier than usual on August 25th with Pinot Noir and ended on October 1st with Cabernet Sauvignon. This compacted season became a story of quality over quantity and allowed our winemaking team to create new wines for our portfolio, craft variations of existing wines and use techniques like whole cluster pressing on 90% of our white wines and allowing for extended maceration periods on our red wines. Overall, the Hester Creek wine coming out of the 2023 season is an example of excellence rooted in the South Okanagan terroir.

WINEMAKING

The Character Red is a robust blend of Petit Verdot, Malbec, Syrah and a unique Italian Merlot Clone. Each varietal of the 2023 vintage was hand harvested and sorted before being gently destemmed and fermented in separate lots. The resulting wine was gently pressed off the skins and the lots were blended. To add nuance, balance, and complexity, we aged the Character Red in a combination of French and American oak for eight months before bottling it in June of 2024.

TASTING NOTES

Lifted aromas of white pepper greet the nose before drifting into warm notes of cedar, dark chocolate and blackberry. The fruit-forward entry on the palate takes the form of ripe blackberry and dark cherry with a hint of black pepper on the midpalate. Smooth notes of vanilla round out the finish of this vintage to make it an ideal pairing to BBQ-roasted chorizo.

Harvest Date	September 27, 29 and 30, 2023	Winery Price	\$22.99 (BC+tax)
Bottling Date	June 19, 2024	CSPC	158311
Grape Variety	Petit Verdot, Malbec, Syrah, Italian Merlot Clone	UPC	626990112228
Vegan	Yes		
Aging	8 months		
Oak	60% French, 40% American		
Ageability	Enjoy now or cellar up to 5 years		
Alcohol	12.8%		
Residual Sugar	2.2 g/L		
pH	3.89		
Total Acidity	5.7 g/L		
Brix at Harvest	22.7 average		
Availability	Wine Shop, Bench Club, online, grocery stores, BC liquor stores, private liquor stores, and select restaurants in BC		