

# NOVELTY HILL

## 2018 R.S.R RED WINE BLEND

### TASTING NOTES

“An aromatic, medium-bodied wine with mouth-watering layers of wild berries, sweet cherry and black currant. Balanced and lively across the mid-palate, with a fresh, fruit-forward finish that lasts.”

- Mike Januik, Winemaker

### VINTAGE

The 2018 Columbia Valley growing season started slowly. Temperatures were cool throughout most of April, then the heat arrived in May and the warm weather persisted throughout the summer. By early September, however, conditions moderated significantly, and the growing region's classic pattern of warm fall days and cool nights returned to extend harvest to a measured pace. The cooler fall temperatures slowed ripening just enough to allow grapes to develop full, mature flavors. These ideal harvest conditions produced ripe, balanced reds wines with excellent natural acidity and rich tannins.

### VINEYARD

The Columbia Valley is a diverse growing region that delivers a wide range of fruit expressions and yields delicious, multi-layered wines through blending. For this enjoyable wine, winemaker Mike Januik uses grapes from Novelty Hill's family-owned estate vineyard Stillwater Creek planted on the Royal Slope of the Frenchman Hills. Veteran viticulturist Ed Kelly manages the estate and credits moderate growing conditions for the grapes' extended hang time and fully developed flavors. The 2018 R.S.R. blend also includes select lots of from other Columbia Valley vineyards for layered complexity and flavor.

### WINEMAKING

- Twice-daily pumpovers gently extracted color and flavor from the grapes during the early stages of fermentation
- Fermentation finished in barrels to integrate the fruit and oak
- Gravity racked to soften and clarify the wine
- Aged 18 months in 25% new, 50% used French oak and 10% new, 10% used American oak barrels

Blend      46% Merlot  
             41% Cabernet Sauvignon  
             8% Petit Verdot  
             5% Cabernet Franc

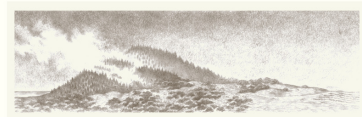
Alcohol      14.4%

pH            3.74

Total Acidity 0.55 g/100 ml

AVA           Columbia Valley

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RED WINE BLEND  
COLUMBIA VALLEY  
2018