

Helix 2017 Stillwater Creek Vineyard Chardonnay



DESCRIPTION

A cool 2017 spring and a warm hot summer developed smaller berries and clusters with moderate yields, setting the stage for intense Chardonnay character. September arrived with cooler than normal temperatures allowing more hangtime and preserving higher than usual acidity resulting in a crisp, clean highly focused wine of bright, pale yellow color. There are accentuated aromas of green apple, apricot, young fresh pineapple and white flower blossoms that are bracingly echoed on the palate. ~*Chuck Reininger, Winemaker*

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Blend: 100% Chardonnay

Cooperage: Stainless Steel

Alc.: 13.8%

pH: 3.39

TA: 7.0 g/L

Bottling Date: March 2018

Production: 209 cases

Release Date: Summer 2018

Drink Between: 2018-2023

THE VINEYARDS

STILLWATER CREEK Stillwater Creek Vineyard is a 235-acre site on the Royal Slope of the Frenchman Hills. Planted in 2000 on a steep, south-facing slope with one of the most diverse clone selections in Washington State, Stillwater Creek quickly has earned a reputation as one of the Columbia Valley's top vineyards. The Stillwater Creek Chardonnay is used to produce both the Helix stainless aged whole-clustered press Chardonnay as well as the Reserve Chardonnay under the REININGER label that's been aged in French oak. In both styles, Chuck prefers to maintain the grape's naturally high acidity to accentuate its minerality.

FOOD PAIRINGS

Our 2017 Helix Chardonnay is the perfect white for those warm, summer gatherings on the beach and family clambakes. Try this vintage with moules frites or raw oysters on the half shell, or pair it with goat or soft cheeses on the patio.

HELIX WINES – MORE TO EXPLORE

Helix Wines are the culmination of a long, storied family history in the Washington and Oregon wine and agriculture industries and a reflection of our family's belief that farming and winemaking is all about discovery. Helix wines are produced by the same family who create REININGER at our Walla Walla Valley winery. Named for a farmstead in Helix, Oregon, where our grandparents met, married, and farmed, Helix is truly a reflection of our family's pioneering background and strong sense of place. Since the first Helix vintage in 2002, our goal is to explore the diverse and unbounded Columbia Valley and to see for ourselves what the Columbia Valley vineyards are capable of producing.

www.helixwine.com