

Helix

2019 chardonnay.

STILLWATER CREEK VINEYARD, COLUMBIA VALLEY

TASTING NOTES

Scents of pineapple, starfruit and orchard blossom bomb the glass and eventually develops some honeysuckle. The flavors reflect the nose with the addition of lemon, pear skin and loamy minerality. Its lively acidity makes this a great summer Chardonnay.

THE 2019 VINTAGE

April arrived with snow still on the ground delaying bud break. The summer provided consistent, very warm heat but not searing heat. Fall was cooler than average. The result - smaller berries, larger character with great acidity. The best method to capture and highlight its attributes is stainless steel fermentation.

THE VINEYARD

Stillwater Creek Vineyard is a 235-acre site on the Royal Slope of the Frenchman Hills, located in Washington's newest AVA: the Royal Slope (approved 2020). 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.

In March 2007, Stillwater Creek was the first Columbia Valley vineyard certified "Salmon Safe" by Seattle's Stewardship Partners for environmental practices that help protect water quality and habitat for fish and wildlife, particularly Northwest salmon.

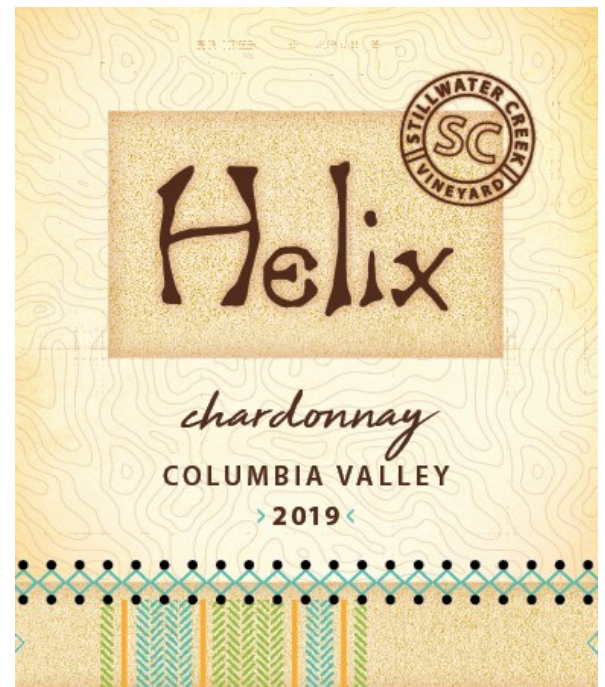
THE AVA

The Columbia Valley is the overarching appellation in Eastern Washington, covering nearly a third of the State and accounting for 99% of Washington's wine grape production.

While the vineyards of the Columbia Valley share much in common in the way of climate, subtle variations across the region have led to the discovery of numerous microclimates and the official assignment of sub-appellations, including the newest AVA, the Royal Site, which is where Stillwater Creek vineyard resides. With Helix, we hope to create wines that both represent the region at large and express the distinct flavors of each vineyard.

HELIX WINES

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.



WINE DATA

<i>Composition</i>	100% Chardonnay
<i>Vineyard</i>	Stillwater Creek
<i>Cooperage</i>	100% stainless steel
<i>Alcohol</i>	13.5%
<i>pH</i>	3.4
<i>Total Acidity</i>	7.4 g/L
<i>Bottling Date</i>	February 2020
<i>Release Date</i>	April 2020
<i>Case</i>	212
<i>Production</i>	

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