

Helix

2018 sangiovese

STILLWATER CREEK VINEYARD, COLUMBIA VALLEY

93 POINTS, JAMES SUCKLING

"Aromas of ripe cherry, blackberry, tobacco leaf, clove and mahogany. It's medium-bodied and fresh with layers of juicy fruit and tea leaves. A soft expression of Sangiovese with silky tannins. Licorice and vanilla linger on the finish. Drink or hold. Screw cap." - jamesuckling.com

TASTING NOTES

Light scents of potpourri blend with raspberry, plum, sundried tomato plus hints of mild herb, graphite and beef carpaccio. A very pleasant and balanced mouthfeel delivers soft tannins and medium acidity, washing the palate with integrated flavors of black cherry, plum, red currant and basalt. Though 100% Sangiovese, it tastes as if blended with Bordeaux.

THE 2018 VINTAGE

2018 presented hot July and August months followed by September 70-degree days and 40-degree nights, creating a wonderful hurry up and wait scenario delivering intense fruit character with delightful acidity.

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. 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.

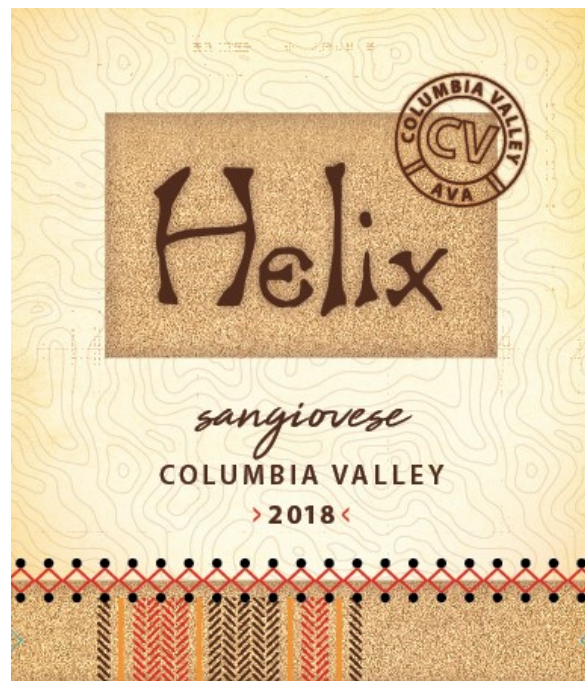
THE AVA

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.

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WINE DATA	
Composition	100% Sangiovese
Vineyard	Stillwater Creek & Seven Hills
Cooperage	100% used French oak
Alcohol	14.3%
pH	3.62
Total Acidity	6.1 g/L
Bottling Date	February 2020
Release Date	May 2020
Case Production	263
Certifications	Salmon Safe
Accolades	93 points, James Suckling