Helix

2022 Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley

Tasting Notes

This is 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, both literally and figuratively. Optimum ripeness delivers fruit that walks a fine line between richness and bordering-on-racy energy. Red fruits lead the way, with bright cherry fruit providing a counterpoint to darker tones of cassis and early-season blackberry. Terrestrial notes of tobacco and something akin to summer rain on warm earth and wild brush frame the fruit with a sense of place. Those themes are reprised on the abundant, but dynamic palate, with firm acidity and medium tannins adding grip and rounding out a deliciously balanced, well-structured texture.

The 2022 Vintage

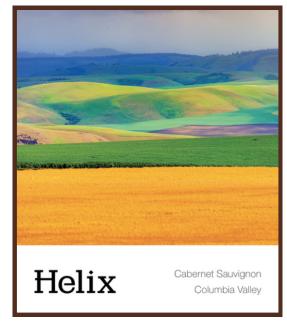
A wet/cold winter, an April snowstorm during bud break, and cool temperatures through June left the vines in an uneven state, as well as two-plus weeks behind. Then Summer arrived with extreme heat, delaying the development even further. Mother Nature brought back balance in September-October, with temperatures above average, allowing for longer and even-ripening. The vintage results are higher yields, incredible flavors, good color, excellent acidity, and lower alcohols.

Pepper Bridge Vineyard

Located at the foothills of the Blue Mountains and cooled by downslope breezes, situated on terraced sedimentary deposits of ice age flood silts overlain by windblown loess, with a high mineral and sand content. Managed by Tom Waliser, farming at Pepper Bridge is designed to work in synergy with soil, climate, and vines to produce grapes of exceptional quality and expression of place.

Phinny Hill Vineyard

Phinny Hill is situated on south-facing slopes in a neighborhood particularly well-suited to growing distinctive Cabernet Sauvignon. The vineyard exemplifies the Horse Heaven Hills AVA. Characterized by wide open skies, warm summer days, cool nights, and the moderating effect of the mighty Columbia River, just down the hill, this vineyard is the source of classic Washington style.



Wine Data:

Composition: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon Vineyards: Pepper Bridge and Phinny Hill

Cooperage: 100% French oak Alcohol: 13.9%

pH: 3.81

Total Acidity: 5.9 g/L
Bottling Date: June 2025
Release Date: July 2025
Case Production: 247

Helix Wines

Rooted in generations of agricultural tradition, Helix Wines reflects our family's deep ties to the land and our passion for discovery through farming and winemaking. Created by the same family behind REININGER, Helix is inspired by the small Eastern Oregon town of Helix—where our grandparents met, married, and built a life of hard work and resilience. Named in their honor, Helix embodies our pioneering spirit and a desire to explore the boundless potential of the Columbia Valley. Since our first vintage in 2002, we've been driven by curiosity—to seek out new vineyard sites, embrace the region's diversity, and craft wines that express the true character of this remarkable landscape.

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