# Helix

# 2022 Tucker Red Columbia Valley

# **Tasting Notes**

Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc join forces with Merlot and Syrah in an alliance that's greater than the sum of its parts. They're all here, delivering their characteristic notes, yet it's difficult to tell where one leaves off and another begins. Think notes of early-in-the-season black cherries, blackberries, blackcaps, and plums, all showing lively freshness. The overall texture is generous yet not gratuitous, abundant but not over the top. A damned delicious, refreshing wine.

# The 2022 Vintage

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

### The AVA

The Columbia Valley is the heart of Washington wine country, spanning nearly a third of the state and producing the vast majority of its wine grapes. With Helix, we aim to celebrate both the region's broad appeal and the unique personality of the vineyards we work with. Each wine is crafted to reflect the Columbia Valley's signature style—ripe, expressive, and full of character—while also highlighting the subtle differences that make each site special.

# **History of Tucker Red**

Tucker Red is our go-to, any-day kind of wine—easygoing, crowd-pleasing, and rooted in Washington wine country tradition. Built on a sturdy foundation of Cabernet Sauvignon, with Syrah, Merlot, and Cabernet Franc adding depth and character, it's a blend that plays well with just about anything (and anyone). First bottled in 2002, Tucker Red has been winning over glasses and gatherings ever since—and it's still one of our most-loved wines today.

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### Wine Data:

Composition: 39% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Syrah, 15% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc Vineyards: Phinny Hill, Pepper Bridge,

Seven Hills, XL

Cooperage: 89% French oak, 11% American

oak (8% new oak) Alcohol: 13.9% pH: 3.82

Total Acidity: 6.0 g/L
Bottling Date: Feb 2025
Release Date: May 2025
Case Production: 503

### **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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