

Helix

2023 Sangiovese, Stillwater Creek Columbia Valley

Tasting Notes

Bright, crystalline ruby hues hint at what's to come: aromas of just-picked early-season cherries with hints of orchard leaves and wild brush (on a warm summer afternoon). Then the palate takes the cue, developing and deepening the cherry theme and adding a hint of cherry stone and a savory waft (think of a vineyard, or maybe an orchard, in the late-afternoon of a hot summer day). The fruit is generous, yet discreet, allowing the freshness and sheer loveliness of pure sangiovese fruit to show its charm. Firm acidity underscores the vibrant freshness with medium tannins lending grip and rounding out a harmonious texture.

The Vineyard

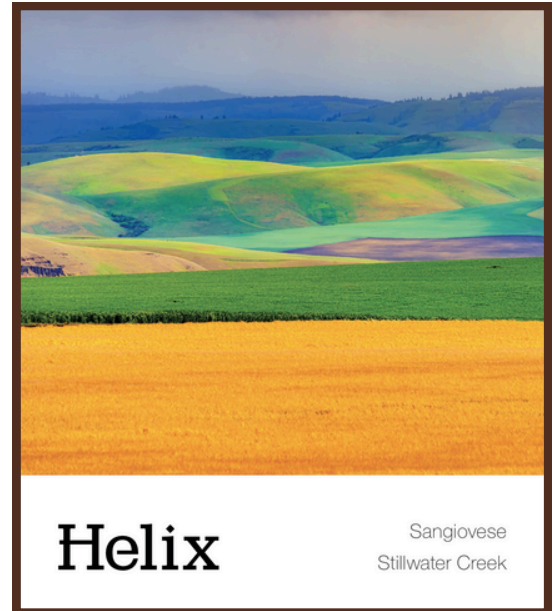
Stillwater Creek is located on the Royal Slope of the Frenchman Hills. It's planted primarily on a steep, south-facing slope, composed of fractured soils, making it ideal for Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Syrah. White grapes, Sangiovese, and other varieties are planted on slightly different exposures, resulting in full fruit expression with superb balancing acidity. Typical of the Columbia Valley's wine-friendly climate, Stillwater Creek's combination of warm days and cool nights results in wines of superb expression and balance. Certified sustainable, Salmon Safe.

The AVA

The Wahluke Slope is located in south-central Washington near the town of Mattawa, and the name is a Native American term for 'watering place.' The area is geographically isolated, bordered by the Columbia River, Saddle Mountains, and Hanford Reach National Monument. The area's geological formation is attributed to Ice Age floods, and its history as a grape-growing region dates back to the 1970s. It was officially designated as an AVA (American Viticultural Area) in 2006. The region is one of the warmest and driest in Washington, allowing for controlled vine vigor through irrigation. Its arid climate and well-drained, gravelly soils, primarily wind-blown sand, contribute to the production of wines with intense flavors and good structure.

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.



Wine Data:

Composition: 100% Sangiovese (Clone 19 & Clone 23)

Vineyards: Stillwater Creek

Cooperage: 100% French oak (8% new)

Alcohol: 14.3%

pH: 3.55

Total Acidity: 6.0 g/L

Bottling Date: Feb 2025

Release Date: May 2025

Case Production: 228

Certified Sustainable, Salmon Safe

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