

Helix

2023 Chardonnay, Stillwater Creek Columbia Valley

Tasting Notes

Fermented in stainless steel to express the purity of the grape's delicate flavor profile, this wine smells (and tastes) of gorgeous orchard fruit, kind of yellow-apple-ish, perhaps leaning a little bit pear. In any case, think crisp and lively, with a bright "snap" of acidity that works magically with the abundance of pure fruit character and satisfying mouthfeel. There's no note of wood, but there is a faint halo of vineyard and environs. It's fresh, refreshing and a great companion.

The 2023 Vintage

Despite a cool start, the growing season brought intense flavors, even ripening, and concentration. Beginning at least three weeks later than usual, it is one of the earliest harvests Washington State has experienced in recent years. Low yields and ideal growing temperatures boosted perfect ripening, with grapes achieving beautiful physiological maturity with vibrant character, color and aromatics.

The Vineyard

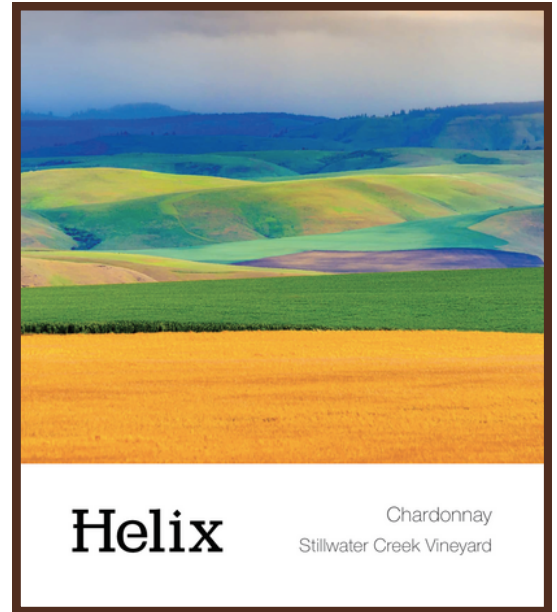
Stillwater Creek is located on the Royal Slope of the Frenchman's Hills. It's planted on a steep, south facing slope, composed of fractured soils, making it ideal for Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Syrah. White grapes, Sangiovese, and other varieties are planted on slightly different exposures resulting in full fruit expression with excellent 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 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.

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% Chardonnay
Vineyards: Stillwater Creek
Cooperage: 100% Stainless Steel
Alcohol: 13.3%
pH: 3.36
Total Acidity: 6.4 g/L
Bottling Date: March 2024
Release Date: May 2024
Case Production: 130
Certified Sustainable, Salmon Safe

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