THE VINEYARDS

Seven Hills vineyard, declared one of the ten most important vineyards in the world by Wine & Spirits Magazine, is among the oldest and most revered sites in the Walla Walla Valley. They are also one of the most technologically advanced in the industry, using computer software connected to sophisticated drip irrigation to monitor and control soil moisture. These technologies are designed to augment vine development while limiting excessive canopy growth. Yields are also strictly controlled to ensure ultra-premium quality fruit.

Les Collines vineyard, “The Foothills,” is located at the base of the Blue Mountains. It is one of the highest vineyards in the Walla Walla AVA with elevations reaching 1,380 feet. Like King Estate, they share an emphasis on sustainability and environmental stewardship. Les Collines is Salmon Safe, LIVE certified, and prescribes to a minimum input farming program that utilizes extensive composting practices. The vineyards’ location atop deep, predominately Walla Walla silt loam soils, in combination with long, hot days and cooler nights, contributes to fruit with unique aromas and comprehensive depth of flavors.

The Wine:

North by Northwest represents wines made from inland grape growing appellations of the Columbia River Basin of Oregon and Washington. The Walla Walla valley is renowned for the ability to grow high quality grapes in an area of unique terroir. NxNW wines are fruit driven, flavorful and aromatic, with balanced structure. Meticulous vineyard selection, skillful blending, and uncompromised commitment to varietal expression yield wines with unique character, a combination exemplified by our NxNW series. The Walla Walla Cabernet Sauvignon is among the most sought after and limited in edition of our wines. Rich and rounded, the 2011 vintage Cabernet Sauvignon shows aromas of black fruit, spices, and cedar in an enticing and complex nose. The well integrated tannins of this robust wine take you seamlessly from start to finish. Enjoy now through 2023.

The Process:

Fermentation techniques for the 2011 NxNW Walla Walla Cabernet Sauvignon included cold soaking, punch downs, pump overs, extended maceration, and Delestage. Aging took place over 22 months in French and American oak.

Vintage Notes:

A cool summer with average moisture levels gave way to one of the latest harvests on record. For the first time in more than a decade, the region experienced no 100-degree days. Fruit was able to ripen steadily and evenly without extreme temperature spikes, though events throughout the entire season remained about 3 weeks behind what is considered average for the area. While this kind of cool, prolonged growing season requires precise execution on the part of the grower, it can produce wines with excellent aging potential, due in part to a lower pH of the fruit. The 2011 growing season allowed grapes more time than usual on the vine which contributed to layered flavors with natural balance.

2011 NxNW Walla Walla Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Vineyards: Seven Hills-60% & Les Collines-40%

AVA: Walla Walla Valley

Alcohol: 14.1%

Winemaker Tasting Notes

Color: Opulent violet

Nose: Black currants, black berry, clove, nutmeg, toffee, cashew, dark chocolate, cedar

Flavors: Dried tobacco leaf, black berry, stewed rhubarb, clove, cinnamon, leather, toasted oak, toffee, vanilla

Mouthfeel: A robust wine with well integrated tannins is an intense mouth full. The wine is seamless from start to finish with a sensuous and generous finish.

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