

# BLACK HILLS ESTATE WINERY

## 2021 NOTA BENE



### VINTAGE NOTES

The 2021 growing season started with a warm and dry spring, and an earlier than average budburst. The warm and dry start to the season was followed by an extremely hot and dry June and July, due to a persistent heat dome over the Pacific Northwest. Record high temperatures were recorded in many areas. Veraison also arrived earlier than average, and the first grapes were harvest 21 days prior to their corresponding harvest date in 2020 – a significant shift. The warm growing season helped the fruit to achieve excellent flavour and phenolic ripeness, along with a high level of concentration and aromatic intensity across all varieties. An outstanding vintage that has produced bold red wines that are full of character.

### TASTING NOTES

Our 2021 Nota Bene shows intense raspberry and Morello cherry on the nose, alongside fresh blackberry and cassis notes. Subtle clove and spice aromas weave into the fruit, with hints of cedar and sagebrush. Ripe red fruits and elegant tannins speak to the heat of the 2021 vintage, while fresh acidity and red cherry flavours frame the long finish. It is expressive on release, almost exuberant, with excellent cellaring potential.

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### WINEMAKING

**Harvesting:** Hand harvested. Hand sorted. Destemmed, leaving whole berries intact.

**Fermentation:** Natural yeasts. Gentle daily pump-overs.

**Maturation:** 18 months in lightly toasted French oak barriques, 40% new oak.

**ABV:** 14.0% **PH:** 3.94 **TA:** 5.28 **RS:** 0.24

### BLEND

42% Merlot

40% Cabernet Sauvignon

17% Cabernet Franc

1% Petit Verdot