



NOVELTY HILL

**2008 Novelty Hill Malbec
Stillwater Creek Vineyard
Columbia Valley**

Tasting Note	<p>This limited release bottling from our estate vineyard is brimming with black fruit aromas and flavors, especially dark cherry and blackberry. Focused and balanced, the flavors linger on a smooth finish. Delicious.</p> <p>Mike Januik, <i>Winemaker</i></p>
Vintage	<p>The 2008 growing season was cooler than usual, delaying veraison by as much as 2-3 weeks but time spent thinning crops and dropping uneven clusters over the summer kept the vines in balance and allowed the grapes to ripen beautifully. Harvest conditions in September and October were picture-perfect, marked by the Columbia Valley's typical warm fall days and cool nights, and the resulting wines boast striking flavors and juicy acidity.</p>
Vineyard	<p>Novelty Hill's estate vineyard, Stillwater Creek, is a steep, south-facing site on the Royal Slope of the Frenchman Hills in Washington State's Columbia Valley. With the goal of growing world-class wine grapes through careful vineyard management and innovative clonal selection, the vineyard is recognized for its unique collection of premium varietal clones.</p>
Winemaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hand-picked and fermented in small lots• Gentle pumpovers during fermentation helped extract color and flavor while yielding soft, supple tannins• Gravity racked every three months to soften and clarify the wine• Aged 20 months in 50% new French barrels
Blend	<p>94% Malbec 3% Merlot 3% Cabernet Franc</p>
Alcohol	14.4%
pH	0.55
Total acidity	3.76