

DILLON



2022 Autumnāle

Vineyards & Composition		77% Phinny Hill Cabernet Sauvignon 15% DuBrul Merlot + 9% Red Willow Merlot
Bottling Date		November 2024
Composition		77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot
RELEASE DATE		Autumn 2025



VINTAGE SUMMARY

The 2022 vintage in Washington featured three distinct extremes: an uncommonly cold spring, a burst of midseason heat, and a record-warm October that ultimately brought the fruit to ideal ripeness.

The year began cold and wet, delaying bud break and raising concerns about crop development. A rare April snowstorm added to those fears. Summer heat arrived in a short, intense wave - just enough to accelerate ripening and drive concentration. An unusually warm fall then extended the growing season, ensuring full phenolic maturity and fresh acidity. The result: wines of remarkable quality, marked by moderate alcohol, vivid fruit expression, and elegant structure.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Perched in the Horse Heaven Hills, **Phinny Hill** is a meticulously farmed site known for producing Cabernet Sauvignon of rare elegance and aromatic lift. Managed by the Beightol family, its old vines yield wines with red fruit, floral nuance, and refined structure - a benchmark site for graceful, age-worthy Cabernet in Washington.

A steep, rocky site in Yakima Valley, **DuBrul** is renowned for Merlot with uncommon structure and depth. Low yields and ancient soils produce dark, mineral-driven wines with tension, freshness, and long aging potential.

One of Washington's most iconic sites, **Red Willow** produces Merlot with savory depth and earthy complexity. High-elevation blocks and volcanic soils yield firm, age-worthy wines with dark fruit, herbs, and a strong sense of place.

Hand-picked and hand-sorted. Gently destemmed for whole berry fermentation. Ambient cold soak (~58°F) for 6 days prior to **native yeast** fermentation. Gentle cap management throughout - no pumpovers. Fermentation at moderate temperatures. Average of 38 days on skins, then pressed to barrel. Aged 24 months on fine lees in French oak (33% new). Native malolactic fermentation in barrel. Low intervention. Bottled unfined and unfiltered.

TASTING NOTES

A wine of quiet authority and composure, inspired by the great estates of Bordeaux before flash and fashion took hold. This bottling nods to those who still carry the torch—wines of power through balance, not bulk; of finesse and longevity, not extraction and sheen.

The nose opens with lifted aromas of violet, graphite, crunchy red currant, and black cherry, layered over hints of cedar, pencil shavings, and dried rose. On the palate, it walks the line between restraint and depth—silky at the edges, firm at the core. Red-toned fruit leads, framed by fine-grained tannins and a long, mineral-etched finish. There's power without brawn, structure without excess.