

DILLON



2022 'Falset a Porrera'

Inspired by my time living and working in Priorat, Spain

Vineyard		Blended
AVA		Walla Walla, Horse Heaven Hills
Bottling Date		November, 2024
Composition		58% Grenache, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Syrah
RELEASE DATE		Spring, 2025

VINTAGE SUMMARY

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

2022 began notably cold and wet which delayed bud break and raised concerns about harvest timing. A rare April snowstorm further compounded these challenges. Summer heat was short but intense and accelerated ripening, helping the vines recover and develop deeply concentrated flavors. Extended Autumn warmth then extended the growing season, ensuring full phenolic maturity and balanced acidity in the grapes. Overall, the result is wines of remarkable quality, marked by moderate alcohol, vibrant fruit expression, and elegant structure.

WINEMAKING NOTES

As always, we start with hand-picked, whole clusters. The Grenache and Syrah ferment 100% whole-cluster, while the Cabernet Sauvignon is destemmed. Arriving at the winery, we cold soak the grapes under a blanket of dry ice for 2-3 days, depending on the vintage and varietal. No additions are made. Under a watchful eye, we wait for native fermentation to begin, then adapt to its natural rhythm—each ferment has its own kinetics and personality.

After 35 to 50 days on skins, we press to barrel. After malolactic fermentation (spring of 2023), we assemble the base blend. Before bottling, we rack once, make final blend adjustments, and bottle unfiltered and unfiltered.

Ideally, we'd co-ferment from the start. However, Cabernet Sauvignon ripens so much later that it would force the wine—so, we pick at optimum ripeness and then blend. *(we are working on a rhone co-ferment (GSM)...)*

TASTING NOTES

Deep and rich yet lifted with vibrancy, this Priorat blend is a study in balance and finesse. The Grenache leads with ripe red cherry, wild strawberry, and a thread of dried Mediterranean herbs, while Cabernet Sauvignon anchors the mid-palate with cassis, blackberry, and graphite. Syrah (from the Rocks) weaves in notes of black olive tapenade, crushed violets, and a whisper of smoked meat.

The palate is expansive yet precise, framed by firm, finely grained tannins and a deep mineral core.. Bright acidity gives energy to the dark fruit, carrying through a long, layered finish of cocoa, anise, and iron.

Decant for an hour to reveal its full complexity or cellar for a decade to watch it evolve.

