

PIROUETTE

2023 PIROUETTE, RED WINE COLUMBIA VALLEY

Originally crafted in collaboration with Napa Valley Vintner Phillipe Melka, this old-world blend of select lots from the Columbia Valley's best vineyards, is produced by Long Shadows' Director of Winemaking and Viticulture, Gilles Nicault

TASTING NOTES:

Dark and deeply colored, the 2023 Pirouette opens with expressive aromas of black cherry, blackberry, and subtle red fruit, accented by warm oak spice. The palate is rich and precisely balanced, with concentrated dark fruit unfolding across a textured mid-palate. Firm, refined tannins lend structure, carrying through to a long, evolving finish marked by lingering dark fruit and spice.

VINTAGE:

The 2023 vintage will be remembered for low yields and exceptional fruit quality, producing wines of remarkable concentration and depth. A cool spring delayed bud break before a sudden May heatwave accelerated early growth. Consistent warmth through July and much of August supported steady ripening, though veraison progressed slowly and required careful canopy management to ensure even maturity. By mid-September, the Columbia Valley returned to its classic pattern of warm days and cool nights, preserving acidity while building flavor. Mild temperatures extended into late October, providing valuable hang time to reach full physiological ripeness.

BLEND:

63% Cabernet Sauvignon
31% Merlot
6% Petit Verdot



WINEMAKING:

Hand-harvested grapes were carefully sorted, then fermented using a variety of techniques to build depth and complexity in this refined blend. A portion of the Cabernet Sauvignon was fermented in 400L French oak barrels, gently rolled throughout fermentation to seamlessly integrate fruit and oak while developing fine-grained, supple tannins. The remaining lots were fermented in stainless steel tanks, with select components receiving extended skin contact to enhance color and mid-palate richness. The wine was then aged for 22 months in French oak barrels, 80% new.

VINEYARDS:

Cabernet Sauvignon from a carefully curated selection of premier Red Mountain vineyards forms the foundation of Pirouette. These sites contribute concentrated fruit and the region's hallmark structure, powerful yet refined. Merlot from StoneTree Vineyard adds layered depth and supple texture to the mid-palate, while Petit Verdot from Dionysus Vineyard contributes aromatic lift and nuanced red spice, enhancing the blend's vibrancy and complexity.

Alcohol: 14.6%

pH: 3.83

TA: 0.55 grams/100ml

Production: 2,857 cases