



Novelty Hill
2003 Syrah, Stillwater Creek Vineyard

Tasting Notes	<p>Glorious stuff, this refined but elegant Syrah offers black cherry, ripe berry and spicy plum aromas and flavors. Balanced and well-structured, the lengthy finish is jammy and rich.</p> <p><i>Mike Januik, Winemaker</i></p>
Vintage	<p>The 2003 Columbia Valley growing season was hot, producing ripe, opulent wines and leading many winemakers to compare it to the renowned 1998 vintage. Look for generous, fruit-forward wines marked with ripe, rich character, due in large measure to the season's high overall heat accumulation.</p>
Vineyard	<p>Stillwater Creek, Novelty Hill's estate vineyard, is located on a steep, south-facing slope on the Royal Slope of the Frenchman Hills, and the syrah is planted in a south-facing section of the vineyard where the soil composition is largely fractured basalt. More than one visitor has noticed the rocky soils are remarkably reminiscent of the Rhone Valley – perhaps one reason why the Syrah from this site is so outstanding.</p>
Winemaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hand-picked and fermented in small lots.- Crush, de-stemmed, fermented and gently punched down 2-3 times a day to extract deep color and flavor without harsh tannins.- Aged in 50% new, 50% one-year-old French oak barrels for 18 months.- Gravity raked every 3 - 4 months.
Blend	100% LSyrah
Case Production	200 cases
Alcohol	14.1%
pH	3.7
Total acidity	0.53 grams/100 mL