



HILL FAMILY  
E S T A T E



## 2021 Cabernet Franc

**Production:** 219 cases

**Composition:** 90% Cabernet Franc, 6% Malbec, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon and 1% Merlot

**Vineyard:** Beau Terroir, Coleman and Baker

**Appellations:** Carneros, Coombsville and Atlas Peak

**Elevation:** Rolling Hills – 1,200 ft.

**Cooperage:** 38% new French oak (25% Tonnellerie O, 13% Nadalier Alliers)

**Alcohol:** 15.2%, TA:5.8 g/L, pH: 3.80

**Bottling date:** June 1, 2023

**Release date:** Winter 2023

**Release price:** \$78.00

Doug Hill enjoys producing Cabernet Franc so he replanted a few rows in the Beau Terroir Vineyard a few years ago. Cabernet Franc is a difficult grape to grow well and exhibits virus and site considerations more than other grape varieties. 2021 was another drought year with a short growing season and hot spells. Fortunately, the weather moderated a bit after September 30 to give us some hang time. We achieved 50% veraison on August 8, which was early for this normally cool site, and the grapes were harvested on October 16 at 27 Brix. After a few days of cold soak, the wine developed nice color with a slight herbal aroma. We fermented it with VQ51 yeast at 85o and pressed it at dryness after 2 weeks, then put it to barrel. After a year, we blended in a small amount of a nice fruity Malbec and a little Cabernet Sauvignon, then put it back to barrel for a total of 20 months.

### **Winemaker Alison Doran's tasting notes:**

The 2021 Cabernet Franc has aromas of cocoa and vanilla, followed by anise and coriander. More mocha begins wafting as the wine spends time evolving in the glass. The palate has a soft balanced entry that expands out to a lively mid-palate with buoyant acidity, rose petals and thyme.

