



## EARLY MOUNTAIN

### 2022 Soif

**Blend:** 80% Merlot, 19% Cabernet Franc, 1% Cabernet Sauvignon

**Winemaker Note:** "Soif" is French for "thirst", and this wine embraces the *Vin de Soif* style so popular in Parisian wine bars: low tannin, juicy, and fun. Soif was a wine that was conceived in the midst of harvest. One of those intuitive moves that resulted in a new perspective; one we liked a lot, and it turns out we weren't the only ones. After great feedback from our members we decided to continue making the wine for the foreseeable future. This year, we led with our lighter style Merlot and Cabernet Franc; we picked it early, with good acidity and lots of bright citrus and red fruit aromas and flavors. Once again Soif ends up being the wine version of the friend who is always positive, who refuses to let you take life too seriously. Its fresh, low tannin nature allows it to be served cool to chilled, making for a flexible Summer red wine.

**Description:** Merlot takes charge of Soif this year, with the largest amount of whole cluster yet, making it a bit more about the fruit in front with prominent herbal components of the wine. It takes on a verdant attribute that adds another layer to the snappy red and stone fruit flavors. The vintage brings a bit more density and color, but this is still juicy and a dancing joy of a wine.

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**In the Vineyard:** *2022 was an eventful vintage for Early Mountain, with climatic events varying significantly from site to site.*

*Early spring, we experienced few frost events, escaping significant fruit damage. Throughout spring and into summer, we saw typical showers, which thankfully cleared up around bloomtime, returning shortly after, resulting in a bit more of a rainy season than 2021 experienced. As the season progressed, we saw greater variability in rainfall depending on site, throughout the state. The late season rains, leading to harvest were also accompanied by notable drying, and at times, significant diurnal shifts, which allowed for balanced vineyards to fully ripen prior to seeing the remnants of Hurricane Ian.*

**Vineyard Blocks:** 100% Estate - EMV Block 10 Merlot, EMV Block 1 West Cabernet franc, Quaker Run Block 2 Cabernet Sauvignon

#### Technical:

Bottled: 2 Feb 2022

Cases produced: 350

Yeast: Ambient

Alcohol: 11.8% abv

pH: 3.62

TA: 5.0 g/L

RS: 0.10g/L (Dry)

Malolactic Fermentation: Full

Filtration: Sterile

Stabilization: None

Aging: Stainless Steel