

# Foothills

EARLY MOUNTAIN

2023

## WINE DESCRIPTION

The aromas of the 2023 Foothills are lively, with red and black fruits, subtle dried herbs, and bright summer berries. It is medium bodied with soft tannins and balanced acidity, bringing more to the table than you might expect. The flavors are layered and many, allowing for more contemplative complexity than we are used to from an “everyday” wine.

## WINEMAKER NOTE

We always have fun making the multiple variety blends like Five Forks and Foothills. Over several vintages, we have noticed that Foothills inherently embraces classic Virginia vintages, and even in riper years, we find ourselves blending towards aromatics and a refreshing palate. This vintage of Foothills sees a greater showing of Petit Verdot, while still grounded in Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Over time we have found that Tannat has a unique place in many of our wines and the 2023 Foothills shows just that, a small accent of diverse aromatics and weight that is quintessentially Tannat.

## WINEMAKER

Maya Hood White

## IN THE VINEYARD

2023 was an excellent vintage with balanced whites and reds with ripe intensity and richness, it is one of the most recent standout vintages! After a very mild winter and throughout spring we saw warm and dry days, leading into bloomtime. Temperate weather throughout bloom resulted in fully set clusters. As the season progressed, we continued to experience very hot and dry days and significant diurnal shifts, allowing for high sugar accumulation and good acid retention. With this exceptional season for ripening, our harvest started on the earlier side and provided phenological ripeness and aromatic complexity.

## COMPOSITION

**43% Petit Verdot**  
**23% Merlot**  
**18% Cabernet Franc**  
**11% Tannat**  
**5% Cabernet Sauvignon**



## VINEYARD

Early Mountain Vineyard  
Quaker Run Vineyard  
Silver Creek Vineyard  
Breaux Vineyard  
Doukenie Vineyard

## AGING

Aged in neutral French oak,  
15% new French oak and  
stainless steel.

## CELLARING

This wine is meant to be  
enjoyed on the younger  
side. We expect it to be in  
its peak drinking window in  
the next two to five years.

## TECHNICAL

Cases produced: 1220  
Bottled: 24 July, 2024  
Yeast: Ambient  
Alcohol: 14.1%

pH: 3.79  
TA: 5.6 g/L  
RS: 0.3 g/L