

Novum

EARLY MOUNTAIN

2022

WINE DESCRIPTION

The aromas presented in this vintage are a vibrant symphony of bright currants, fresh straw, and succulent red plum, all exuding an invigorating sense of freshness and vitality. These lively notes gracefully lead into delightful confectionery characteristics, while also revealing a subtle, earthy complexity of tarragon, mushroom, and tobacco. On the palate, the wine is both textured and invigorating, showcasing moderate density that is elegantly supported by a harmonious balance of acidity and tannin dynamics. This intricate interplay creates a refined tasting experience that invites further exploration, making each sip a journey through its multifaceted profile. The overall impression is one of sophistication, leaving a lasting and memorable impression.

WINEMAKER NOTE

Novum has always held a special place in our hearts, as it uniquely expresses the vintage. Tannat is a varietal that excels in Virginia and plays a significant role in Novum; it not only provides a unique and dynamic structure but, when blended with Cabernet Franc and Merlot, creates harmony. We work with many exciting Cabernet Franc sites and have consistently found Tannat to be extremely complementary, resulting in a wine that serves as an exploration of Virginia.

WINEMAKER

Maya Hood White

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.

COMPOSITION

43% Cabernet Franc
30% Merlot
27% Tannat



VINEYARD

Quaker Run Vineyard
Capstone Vineyard
Shenandoah Springs
Sherman Ridge

AGING

Aged 16 months in French and
northern European larger
format barrels, 35% new.

CELLARING

This wine is drinking lively
now, in a young and
intense manner. It should
develop well over the next
five to ten years when
properly cellared.

TECHNICAL

Cases produced: 901
Bottled: 24 March, 2024
Yeast: Ambient
Alcohol: 13.7%

pH: 3.85
TA: 5.0 g/L
RS: 0.24 g/L