



BREAKNECK CREEK VINEYARD DRY RIESLING 2017

100% Riesling
East side of Seneca Lake (Valois, NY)
Soils: gravelly silt loam
Hand-harvested, sorted, and whole cluster pressed
Harvest Date: Oct. 27
Fermented with indigenous yeasts
Fermented and aged in neutral barrels
Residual Sugar: 0.3%
Production: 125 cases
Alcohol: 13%

VINTAGE

A milder winter than normal was followed by a fickle spring. Although April brought some hot weather, May was the wettest on record and put considerable moisture into the ground. We then settled into a rainy-cool cycle that is atypical for summer in our continental climate. This carried on through August, resulting in vines that grew due to precipitation and just-enough sun, but grapes that ripened slowly due to the lack of warmth and larger yields. Thankfully, everything changed in our favor as record-breaking high temperatures arrived in September, along with an extended period of dryness that lasted all the way through harvest in early November. We were able to reach optimal ripeness due to the drier, warmer autumn which provided the ability to hang our fruit out as long as needed. In fact, 2017 tied with 2014 in concluding with our latest harvest date. The resulting wines show crystalline purity, balance and freshness.

VINEYARD

Our first year working with this site has already shown great promise. Planted in the mid-1990s on gravelly silt loam soils, the combination of vine maturity and meticulous viticultural practices make for a site with endless potential. As one of our last Riesling vineyards to be harvested in 2017, the fruit showed fantastic levels of ripeness and overall health.

Like Sawmill Creek Vineyard, our Breakneck Creek Vineyard takes its name from the channel of water at the south end of the site that flows into Seneca Lake. The landscape is dramatic and intense, densely layered with cliffs and waterfalls formed by water flowing over hard and soft shale.

TASTING NOTES

Grapefruit - white pepper - peony - tropical fruits

Our first year working with this site has already shown great promise. The dramatic landscape of Breakneck Creek—cliffs and waterfalls—carved from hard layers of shale echoes in the minerality of this wine. It is dense with flavors of tropical fruits, lemon tart, chamomile, and vanilla.