

2009 Tenor Wines Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Sourced from a biodynamically farmed portion of Hedges Estate on Red Mountain plus Lawrence and Stillwater Creek on the Royal Slope, Tenor's 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon is crafted with the ambitious intention of "develop(ing) nicely over the next 16 to 18 years" and one thing that can be said for sure is it's possessed of abundant tannins finer in grain than the corresponding Malbec. At the same time, Morell sees it as the most generous of his reds in its youth, and that was indeed (happily) the case on this occasion. Scents of cassis, dark cherry, bittersweet floral perfume, and a hint of band-aid as well as a stony undertone on the wine's dense palate all put me a bit in mind of Bordeaux. Notes of toast and vanilla from all-new barrel (where this spent 21 months, the longest Morell says he will permit) largely back-off after the initial whiff to let considerable floral, mineral and fruit nuances come...