



## 2021 GAMAY NOIR

### WINEMAKING DATA

**Harvest Date:** October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Brix:** 21.6 weighted average

**Blend and grape source:** 100% organically certified estate Gamay Noir from Lincoln Lakeshore appellation.

**Appellation:** VQA Lincoln Lakeshore

**Alcohol:** 12.7%      **pH:** 3.21

**Residual Sugar:** <2.0/L      **T.A.** 7.04g/L

**Bottling Date:** April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

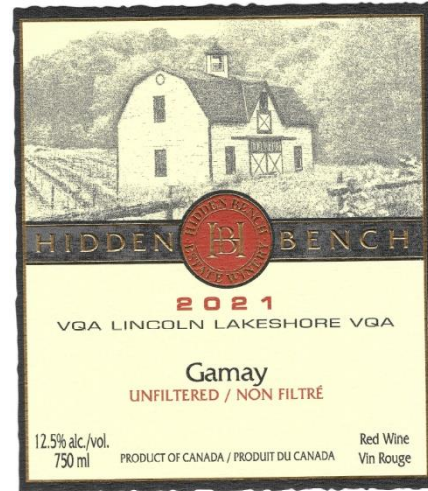
**Oak regime:** 100% French Oak; 17% new, 13% 2nd fill, 22% 3rd fill and balance neutral. Blended in August 2022 and aged in concrete tank for an additional 6 months.

**Time in barrel:** 9 months      **Time in Concrete:** 6 months

**Vine Age:** Planted 2016

**Un-fined and Unfiltered.**

**Certified Organic by Procert.**



ESTATE SERIES



### WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Located in the Lincoln Lakeshore appellation, this terroir is ideally suited to Gamay Noir winegrowing. The grapes were handpicked, sorted and cold-soaked in for 5-6 days, during which time a small "saignée" was made to produce Rosé wine and concentrate the skin to juice ratio in the must. With 100% destemmed fruit, fermentation started naturally with indigenous yeasts and the caps were gently submerged twice daily during fermentation. At the end of fermentation, the free run wine was drained and settled in tank before barreling down by gravity. The skins were gently pressed in a traditional basket press. Following 10 months of ageing in barrel the wine was racked and blended into a concrete tank in August 2022. The wine was then bottled un-fined and unfiltered to capture its purity in April 2023.

### TASTING

Pouring a brilliant ruby purple, the 2021 Gamay leads with aromas of macerated summer berries, purple violets, and cured meat. The expressive palate is layered with flavours of cherry cola, cran-raspberry fruit, and toasted bread. Refreshing acidity and subtle minerality linger on the long finish. Pair with BBQ meals like grilled lamb burgers with tzatziki or smoked beef ribs.

### THE GROWING SEASON

Like all vintages, 2021 has its own unique story! The year started with a mild and relatively dry winter which protected buds and increased bud survivability to approximately 90%. The warm Spring led to an earlier than average budbreak coupled with an excellent vegetative growth phase through May and June resulted in early and complete flowering towards the Summer Solstice.

Fruit set was excellent and the larger than average crop was supported by ample moisture and heat during July and August. Our winegrowing team was kept very busy with leaf removal to open the canopy as well as fruit thinning/ balancing throughout the summer and at the end of August we and many other winegrowers anticipated an excellent and incredibly large vintage.

The age-old vigneron's expression Sept/October makes the vintage was once again exemplified in 2021! As we prepared for harvest in early September rain events of biblical proportions arrived (500-600mm in Sept./Oct.) caused logistical plans and crop yield estimates to be revisited by our team. The 2021 harvest was a challenge for our team, but we are pleased with the quality that our organic, hand harvested and sorted fruit was able to deliver. 2021 vintage will be remembered as a winegrower's vintage where a nimble approach and attention to detail from vineyard to bottle delivered very good early varietal wines. Bench, we believe 2020 will be a benchmark vintage which we anticipate will yield full bodied, age worthy wines.