

2017 Walla Walla Valley Syrah



pH: 3.53

Titrateable Acidity: 7.0 g/L

Alcohol: 14.9%

Harvest Parameters: October 4th and 23rd, 2017 at ~24.3 Brix, 3.51 pH, and 5.3 g/L of titrateable acidity.

Blend: 100% Syrah, 50% Minnick Hills vineyard, block 4, clone 7. 50% Patina vineyard. 25% new French oak, aged for 22 months. 25% whole cluster.

Cases produced: 153

Release Date: April 7, 2022

Winemaker's Notes: A blend from two of our favorite vineyards, this Syrah is filled with aromas of dark fruits, sawdust, and a touch of black pepper on the nose. The palate is dominated by blackberry, dark cherry, plum, and mouthwatering acidity. This rich and intense mix is dashed with chocolate and soft tannins on the finish. Delicious now, this will continue to drink well over the next decade plus. Drink now through 2037.

Winemaking: The fruit for this wine is from two vineyards, one in the northeastern portion of the Walla Walla Valley, near the Walla Walla airport, in Palouse loess soils, and the other towards the southeast, in Walla Walla silt loam soils. We did not want the grapes to get overripe, so we picked them a bit early at the very beginning of October to mid-October. After the fruit was picked in the mid-morning, it was destemmed into fermenters with the addition of enzymes that increase color and aroma and a SO₂ and ascorbic acid blend to control oxidation. One quarter of the fruit was foot stomped for whole cluster fermentation. After a day of soaking on the skins, we added D254 yeast and malolactic bacteria on day five to kickstart ML fermentation. The wine fermented for 10 days before being pressed. Secondary fermentation completed about two months later and SO₂ was added to protect the wine from oxidation and microbiological spoilage. The wine was racked twice before being bottled on August 27th, 2019 after crossflow filtration. The wine saw 25% new French oak for 22 months.

Awards: 91 pts - James Suckling

90 pts - Washington Wine Blog

Double Gold - 2022 Great NW Wine Platinum Awards

Gold - 2022 SavorNW Wine Competition

Gold - 2022 Seattle Wine Awards (94 pts)

Silver - 2022 Cascadia International Wine Competition

Silver - 2022 Bellingham Wine Competition

Bronze - 2022 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition