



## 2018 WW Syrah Walla Walla Valley Washington

### Vintage Notes

We kind of cruised into the 2018 harvest, after an early bud break and bloom, a comfortably warm spring, and those precious, cool, summer evenings that make our eyes light up. The stellar prospect of the vintage was heightened by a “cool” final ripening compared most of the previous five. Perfectly ripe, but not overly so. Zero disease pressure, thanks to coastal and ridge-top breezes and the absence of rain. Rich flavors with an edge of restraint, combined with the lift of gentle acidity. Textbook perfect from our vantage, and worthy of all the hype.

### Winemaker Notes

An amazing, undisclosed Walla Walla vineyard grew some stellar Syrah for us in 2018. It's our second year of making this exciting wine, and in true winemaker fashion, Wynne has made Syrah with a Pinot Noir winemaker's hand, thus evoking the more delicate and elegant side of the grape. The deep red-brick color indicates we aren't in Pinot Noir country anymore, Toto. On the nose we are deep in graphite, violets, sweet brown molasses bread, and clay, all very characteristic of Syrah. The palate shows the delicacy of this wine, with a light hand of clove and cinnamon, cassis and blueberry fresh fruit, tobacco, and chocolate covered raisins, followed by dusty ageable tannins, elegant tannins, and more juicy ripe fruit. Our Sophomore Syrah is a true combination of land and hand both having influence, and symbiosis, made in the land of Pinot Noir.

### Technical Data

**AbV** - 15.4% | **TA** - 6.8 g/L | **pH** - 3.60

**Cooperage** - 17 months 25% New French Oak

**Production** - 96 Cases

**Release** - February 2021





Wynne at the sorting table - Carlton Winemakers Studio

## Trading Wine

### starting a new tradition

We live in the land of Pinot Noir, with plantings of that grape representing two-thirds of total planted acreage in the Willamette Valley. And we love it! We also have the oldest block of Gamay Noir in the Valley, which brings us joy in farming, producing and consuming. But different occasions call for different wines, so when one of our friends in the Walla Walla Valley reached out about trading some of their coveted Syrah for our Ribbon Ridge Pinot Noir, we jumped at the chance.

***The chance to experiment with a grape that we were familiar with drinking and eager to see how it would evolve in our cellar.***

**-Wynne Peterson-Nedry**

Now that we've got one vintage in bottle, another one in the cellar and the third arriving any day, we are ready to share the results with you. And you will be playing a key role in the development of this project, we hope. We are committed to Stelvin screw caps with Pinot Noir, Gamay Noir and the white wines we produce because we have the history and data to back up the undeniable benefits it provides to long-term aging. But with Syrah, we are not sure. So we have bottled about half under screwcap, almost half under natural cork and a few cases under Diam for later trials. Join us on this new adventure and let us know what you think.



*Age-worthy wines from the first vines planted on Ribbon Ridge - and from Walla Walla!*