

2016 K Milbrandt Syrah

I like this wine a lot. Two great sites, one grower. Compelling, aromatic dark plum, briny olive, spice cake. Focused, fresh and exciting to drink. Black cherry, deep red rose petals, cool earth. Deep...a seriously good Syrah.

Current & Past Scores

93 Points, Vinous/Tanzer

"Dark red with ruby tones. Pungent aromas of cassis, blueberry, prosciutto, licorice, menthol, mint and minerals. Juicy and intense, conveying an exhilarating combination of sweetness and lively acidity to its red and darker berry and spice flavors. A savory element provides a further leavening influence. Finishes long, with firm but suave tannins. Lovely wine with real personality."

93 Points, Jeb Dunnuck (formerly of Robert Parker's Wine Advocate) (v2015)

"From the Northridge and Clifton Hills Vineyard (both on the Wahluke Slope) brought up in 30% new puncheons, the 2015 Syrah Milbrandt offers a complex, nuanced style in its lavender, green olive, blackcurrants, and smoked herbs aromas and flavors. It's medium to full-bodied, has plenty of tannins, and will benefit from short-term cellaring."

Vineyard

The vineyards we work with are farmed using the most up to date sustainable practices.

Northridge Vineyard (54%): Koehler loamy fine sand over cemented silica; ancient pre-flood soils, a very unique 92 acre site on the Wahluke Slope. Planted in 2003.

Clifton Hill (46%): Owned and farmed by the Milbrandt family, this vineyard is a vigor limiting mix of stone strewn sand transitioning over the first two feet of soil to deep glacially deposited gravel. These soils are extremely well drained allowing total control of the canopy.

Vintage

The 2016 vintage started early and warm in Washington State. When summer arrived, the season saw cooler evenings that helped retain acidity, extended the growing and ripening period into September and October. This allowed the fruit to gain more complexity and deeper charm without sacrificing the acid or producing higher alcohol content. The vintage has created deeply rich and focused wines that we will be able to enjoy for a long time to come.

Blend

100% Syrah

Appellation

Wahluke Slope

Production

Yield: 2.7 tons per acre
100% whole cluster pressed
Yeast: native
45 days on skins
30% new, 70% neutral oak puncheons
15 months barrel-aged on lees

Wine Analysis

5.9 g/L titratable acidity 3.94 pH 14.5% alcohol No residual sugar

UPC

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SUBSTANCE

B. Leighton