

K VINTNERS

2017 K EL JEFE TEMPRANILLO

TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

The best. Blood, sand, cedar, blue and red fruit intermingle with sandalwood, black leather and a warm, northern sun. Here in Washington, the sun also rises.

VINTAGE NOTES

2017 was a fantastic year for making wine with a cool spring and a fair amount of rain. Washington had an ideal spring for healthy vines. The moderate temperatures during summer were perfect for small clusters and yet delayed veraison into the fall where we had a consistent ripening season that allowed us to hang the fruit for perfect tannin and flavor without losing acidity or acquiring too much alcohol. Overall it was a vintage to remember.

CURRENT & PAST SCORES

94 Points, *Jeb Dunnock*

“All destemmed and brought up in 40% new French oak, the 2017 Tempranillo El Jefe is killer wine that has lots of classic Tempranillo spice and savoriness as well as a great core of fruit, integrated oak, medium to full body, and incredibly polished, silky tannins. There are only 244 cases, but it’s beautifully done. It’s already drinking nicely, yet it should easily evolve for a decade.”

90 Points, *James Suckling*

“A dense, very ripe wine that verges on raisiny. Slightly bitter. Lots of spices and coffee. Flavorful finish. Drink now.”

WINEMAKING

Varietal Breakdown: 100% Tempranillo

Appellation: Royal Slope

Vineyard(s): Stoneridge Vineyard (100%)

Production: 2.9 tons per acre | Native yeast | 100% whole berry fermentation | 45 days on skins | 52% new French oak barriques | 22 months barrel-aged on lees

Wine Analysis: 5.1 g/L titratable acidity | 3.98 pH | 14.5% alcohol | No residual sugar

UPC: 184745300059



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