



2018 K EL JEFE TEMPRANILLO

TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

From the get go, this wine says Tempranillo! From the exhilarating color to its familiar sights and sounds of suede, warm sand, black plum, a tobacco-filled garden. A deep red brick sturdiness that speaks to its pedigree. Spanish spoken here!

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2018 vintage was incredible! This outstanding vintage began mild followed by a long and dry ripening season in the fall. This enabled us to hang the fruit to reach optimal ripeness without losing acidity or increasing sugars. The wines from 2018 are exceptional in many ways, from the great expression of the whites to the beautiful refinement and complexity of the reds. Enjoy!

CURRENT SCORES

94 Points, *Jeb Dunnuck*

“... black raspberry and cassis-like fruits as well as ample spice, dried herbs, and new leather nuances define the bouquet, and it’s medium to full-bodied, with a polished, elegant mouthfeel, silky tannins, and a great finish. It’s another elegant, seamless wine from this team that has loads of character. It should shine for at least a decade.”

93 Points, *Anthony Mueller–Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate*

“...begins with a dark magenta core and firm, rocky essence that presents with a juicy plum aroma and tight floral sensation. Full-bodied and generously layered, the wine is textually pleasing with fine-grained tannins and succulent acidity before ending with a lively and energetic finish that is juicy and firm.”

93 Points, *Owen Bargreen–Vinous*

“Stony and flinty undertones combine with beautiful freshness and finesse on the palate as layers of huckleberry, exotic spices, tilled soils and Earl Grey tea all nicely align. Gorgeous to consume now, this has another decade of staying power.”

92 Points, *James Suckling*

“A fresh and clean tempranillo with dark-berry, chocolate and walnut character. Medium-bodied with firm tannins and a fresh finish. Linear and tight with nice chewiness. Drink or hold.”

VINEYARD

Stoneridge Vineyard (100%)

The vineyard has an alluvial fan gravel bed and rests above the flood plain of the Columbia River. Under the topsoil is a layer of caliche and basalt 6-12” deep, creating a calcium and iron rich media that forces roots to struggle. The fruit grown is thick skinned and produces nearly black juice and robust yet supple tannins, adding to the aging potential of the wines.

WINEMAKING

Varietal Breakdown: 100% Tempranillo

Appellation: Royal Slope

Production: 2.8 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole berry fermentation, 47 days on skins | 22 months barrel-aged on lees in 47% new French oak barriques | 720 cases

Wine Analysis: 5.1 g/L titratable acidity, 3.87 pH, 14% alcohol, no residual sugar

UPC: 184745300059

