



2020 K VINTNERS MERLOT NORTHRIDGE VINEYARD

TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

Blackberry, dark plum and cool earth. Silky and luscious, the pinnacle of Washington Merlot.



VINTAGE NOTES

The 2020 vintage might be the best vintage that we have ever had in Washington state history. We had an incredible growing season that was long and temperate, allowing the fruit to ripen evenly. The wines are focused, rich, complex and lively. The reds are restrained and elegant, yet powerful with incredible tension and balance. Our white and rosé wines are wonderfully rich on the palate but balanced with enough acid to make the wines complete. We are excited to see how these wines evolve!

CURRENT SCORES

93 Points, *James Suckling*

“Notes of plums and blackberries with dark chocolate, ground spices and moist earth. Medium- to full-bodied with velvety, slightly chewy tannins that are broad and firm. Smooth and plummy with a chocolatey texture. Lingering dark-fruit finish. Drink or hold.”

93 Points, *Eric Guido–Vinous*

“Boasts a bouquet of dusty lavender, violet, crushed rocks and wild blueberries. Silky and nearly creamy in feel, it impresses further with depths of mineral-tinged red and blue fruits guided by zesty acidity.”

VINEYARD

Northridge Vineyard (100%)

Loamy, fine sand over silica limestone, these ancient soils above the Missoula Flood plain are some of the best to grow fruit. This site is higher elevation and has cooler evenings, which creates later ripening, lots of minerality and concentration. A hidden gem!

WINEMAKING

Varietal Breakdown: 100% Merlot

Appellation: Wahluke Slope

Production: 2.6 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole berry fermentation in French oak tanks, 49 days on skins | 22 months barrel aged on lees in 50% new French oak barriques | 401 cases produced

Wine Analysis: 5.4 g/L titratable acidity, 3.74 pH, 14.0% alcohol, no residual sugar

UPC: 184745100178