



2020 K VINTNERS THE KLEIN

TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

Dense and powerful. A real powerhouse of rock, fruit and texture.



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

97 Points, Jeb Dunnuck

“The 2020 The Klein is based on 38% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, and 27% Cabernet Franc, and it’s another absolutely brilliant wine from this team. All from a site in the southern part of the Walla Walla Valley, aged 26 months in 60% new oak, it has a smorgasbord-like array of red and black fruits, leather, smoked tobacco, graphite, and savory herbs. These carry to a full-bodied red with a rich, powerful mouthfeel, ripe tannins, and a great finish. It’s a complex, savory, nuanced beauty that will evolve for two decades.”

96 Points, James Suckling

“A Bordeaux-style blend of 38% cabernet sauvignon, 35% merlot and 27% cabernet franc, the wine enters elegantly and then builds massive tannins in the texture that will hold it steady for years if not decades. Bright red cherries, dried black cherries, cranberries, cedar and oak spices make a wonderful mix. Best from 2030.”

92 Points, Eric Guido–Vinous

“Youthfully restrained, leading off with crushed rocks and dried red and black fruits. It’s soft textured and nearly creamy in feel, with an elegant wave of ripe red and blue fruits accentuated by sweet spices and hints of sage. It finishes long and staining yet only lightly structured, leaving a tinge of sour orange that provides lovely freshness.”

VINEYARD

Klein Vineyard (100%)

This vineyard is located at the Southwestern end of the Walla Walla Valley. It’s volcanic rock, with thin, wind-blown loess over basalt. The high elevation, 850 feet, means it doesn’t freeze and is a fairly windy site. This vineyard produces low yields and powerful, unique wines.

WINEMAKING

Varietal Breakdown: 38% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 27% Cabernet Franc

Appellation: Walla Walla Valley

Production: 2.4 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole berry fermentation in French oak tanks, 47 days on skins | 22 months barrel aged on lees in 65% new French oak barriques | 403 cases

Wine Analysis: 5.8 g/L titratable acidity, 3.86 pH, 14.5% alcohol, no residual sugar

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