

CASASMITH

2020 CASASMITH JACK'S BARBERA

TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

From cobble stone rocks of Walla Walla, the expression of Barbera is dignified, charming, and wonderfully brooding. Black plum, palo santo wood, black tea, and fresh sea air linger with an intense finish of cherry, potpourri and an old suede leather jacket. A rare find.

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, *Eric Guido–Vinous*

“Silky and elegant, it smooths over the palate with ripe red and blue fruits as cooling acidity maintains a lovely inner freshness. Wild blueberry comes together with confectionary spice as this finishes long and lightly structured. This is like no Barbera I’ve ever tasted, but I’m loving it.”

92 Points, *James Suckling*

You can really smell the Rocks District here. Wet earth, green olives and wild cherries with cardamom. Silky in texture and savory with lightly stemmy and taut tannins and a medium body. Drink or hold.

92 Points, *Jeb Dunnuck*

“I loved the 2020 Barbera Jack’s Vineyard, and I think this is one of the finest expressions of the variety in the US. Ripe black raspberries, spicy oak, sandalwood, and dried flower notes all define this complex, medium-bodied, elegant, incredibly satisfying Barbera. It will keep for a decade, but I like it today. This is 100% Barbera, all from a tiny vineyard on the Walla Walla Valley’s eastern side. It was fermented with 25% stems and aged in 25% new French oak.”

VINEYARD

Jack’s Vineyard (100%)

Planted in 1999, Jack’s Vineyard is a stony, ancient riverbed located on the floor of the Walla Walla Valley. The vineyard features loam-cobbles over gravel over sand. Low vigor keeps flavors concentrated in the rocky soils of this part of the valley.

WINEMAKING

Varietal Breakdown: 100% Barbera

Appellation: Walla Walla Valley

Production: 2.5 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole berry fermentation in stainless steel rules, 25% stems added back into fermentation | 41 days on skins | 17 months barrel-aged on lees in 25% new French oak barriques | 188 cases

Wine Analysis: 5.4 g/L titratable acidity, 3.89 pH, 14.5% alcohol, no residual sugar

UPC: 184745007408

