



# 2019 K BRONCHO MALBEC

## TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

Dark, brooding and inspiring, nearly opaque: black plum and cherry, licorice, grilled fennel, nori and fire ash. Unbelievable intensity and purity on the palate, rolling on the tongue with cured black olive, charred tangerine peel, black raspberry and crushed rock. Engaging and luscious. What a pleaser!



## VINTAGE NOTES

The 2019 vintage was on the cooler side as it started slow with later-than-usual bud break and continued on to be fairly moderate throughout the year. Some vineyards had issues with an October freeze a bit earlier than usual, but our high-elevation vineyards have great air drainage which allows us to extend the growing season late into October without freeze. This yielded fantastic ripening and some awesome wines with incredible balance and character. Overall, we are excited about the wine produced in 2019, which has brought us more finesse, incredible flavors and lovely balance.

## CURRENT SCORES

### 94 Points, *James Suckling*

"Aromas of brambleberry, iodine, black cherry, blackberry and orange zest. Full-bodied with a lot of delicious nuance and complexity. The velvety tannins are juicy and carry the palate for a long time. There is a hint of mandarin-orange and lemon-peel zip to the acidity, which lifts up the ripe black and blue fruit. White pepper and clove, too. Delicious. Drink or hold."

### 94 Points, *Jeb Dunnuck*

"Always a terrific expression of the variety from Washington, the 2019 Malbec Broncho comes all from the Stoneridge Vineyard and was aged 22 months in 50% new barrels. It has some classic Malbec blue fruits as well as notes of iron, ground pepper, violets, and a touch of minerality. Full-bodied on the palate, it has ripe tannins, a layered, pure, precision mouthfeel, and a great finish."

## 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% Malbec

**Appellation:** Royal Slope

**Production:** 2.6 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole berry fermentation, 45 days on skins | 50% new French oak Barriques, 22 months barrel-aged on lees | 412 cases produced

**Wine Analysis:** 5.7 g/L titratable acidity, 3.9 pH, 14% alcohol, no residual sugar

**UPC:** 184745001017