



# 2019 K ROCKGARDEN SYRAH

## TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

Bold, intense and unique, the wine speaks loudly of black raspberry and wild blueberry, Bing cherry, lavender, thyme and sage brush. It lavishes us with sun drenched stone, black licorice, fresh basil, river rock and rose. This is what Walla Walla smells and tastes like on a beautiful summer day.

## 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 & PAST SCORES

### 95 Points, *Jeb Dunnuck*

"Iron, black olives, peppery herbs, and both red and black fruits all emerge from the 2019 Syrah Rockgarden Vineyard, a balanced, deep, medium to full-bodied beauty with fine tannins and just about flawless balance. Coming all from the Rockgarden Vineyard in the Rocks region of the Walla Walla Valley and 100% Syrah that was not destemmed and was brought up in 40% new barrel, it's drinking brilliantly today and will cruise in cold cellars for a decade."

### 94 Points, *James Suckling*

"An alluring nose. Aromas of dried flowers, grated nutmeg, baked cherries and pine cone. Full bodied with silky tannins. Linear, nuanced and charming. The floral character takes center stage, complimented by paprika and cardamom. Cocoa, too. Soft, gentle finish. Very well balanced. Drink or hold."

### 93 Points, *Robert Parker's Wine Advocate—Anthony Mueller* (v2018)

### 92 Points, *Wine Spectator—Tim Fish* (v2018)

## VINEYARD

### Rockgarden Vineyard (100%)

Planted in 2006, in the cobblestones of the rocks in Walla Walla and Freewater with very cobble loam soil. With high density planting at six by four feet, both Phelps and Tablas Creek clones are planted in the ten-acre site. This is a beautiful spot that produces very distinctive wines.

## WINEMAKING

**Varietal Breakdown:** 100% Syrah

**Appellation:** Walla Walla Valley

**Production:** 2.3 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole cluster fermentation, 54 days on skins | 40% new French oak puncheons, 22 months barrel-aged on lees | 547 cases

**Wine Analysis:** 5.3 g/L titratable acidity, 3.91 pH, 14% alcohol, no residual sugar

**UPC:** 184745001383

