



# 2019 K ROMA CAB SAUV-SYRAH

## TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

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The Rocks speak out loud... Black plum, grilled meat, evergreen forest, and pencil shavings whisper in delight. Fresh herbs, black cherry, and clove. Seamless, long, and satisfying. A very special Roma.

## VINTAGE NOTES

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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

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### 93 Points, *James Suckling*

"An inviting nose of ripe plum, blackberry, blackcurrant and fresh coffee. Medium-to full-bodied with stony mineral character. Velvety tannins. Vanilla and suede come through. Well balanced with good purity of fruit... Drink or hold."

### 92 Points, *Jeb Dunnuck*

"The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon-Syrah Roma is another outstanding wine. Based on 78% Cabernet Sauvignon and 22% Syrah, it has lots of classy red and black fruits as well as some Rocks funk in its notes of iron, black olive tapenade, and roasted herbs. Nicely textured on the palate, it's medium to full-bodied, has ripe tannins, and a satisfying, layered style perfect for drinking over the coming decade or more."

### 92 Points, *Vinous—Owen Bargreen* (v2018)

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

## VINEYARD

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### River Rock Vineyard (100%)

Owned and farmed by Dana Dibble, planted in 2001. The site is located south of Walla Walla in the old Walla Walla River bed; the soil is rocky and with great drainage. The clone of Syrah sourced is Tablas Creek, which thrives in the big river stone cobble. This is the warmest site in the Walla Walla Valley.

## WINEMAKING

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**Varietal Breakdown:** 78% Cabernet Sauvignon 22% Syrah

**Appellation:** Walla Walla Valley

**Production:** 1.9 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole berry fermentation (Cabernet Sauvignon) 100% whole cluster fermentation (Syrah), 51 days on skins | 45% new French oak barriques, 22 months barrel-aged on lees | 266 cases

**Wine Analysis:** 5.3 g/L titratable acidity, 3.9 pH, 14% alcohol, no residual sugar

**UPC:** 184745200052

