



# 2019 K ROYAL CITY SYRAH

## TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

The quintessential Royal City. Dark and complex. Black cherry, black currant, black coffee. Cardamon and wet rock. Subtly layered with velvet tension. Thyme, anise, cured meats, and black tea complete things.

## 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

### 97+ Points, *Eric Guido–Vinous*

“...earthy, almost meaty in the glass, as notes of sage and dill accentuate green olive, then evolves to show musky black currants and crushed rocks. This is texturally thrilling, deep and creamy in feel, yet somehow energetic as well, with masses of mineral-tinged black fruits complemented by sweet herbs and tobacco. The 2019 melts away from the palate like molten chocolate, with exotic spices and tangerine to balance. Wow, I can’t wait to see what another four to five years of cellaring might reveal here.”

### 96 Points, *James Suckling*

“Lovely aromas of crushed blackberry, ripe plum, white pepper and dried herbs. Medium-to full-bodied with fine, slightly firm tannins. Nuanced in its expression of herbs and spices. Nutmeg, allspice and ground clove all come through. Juicy red and black fruit. Wet-stone mineral character to it all. Best after 2025.”

### 98 Points, *Jeb Dunnuck* (v2018)

### 96 Points, *Anthony Mueller–Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate* (v2018)

### 93 Points, *Tim Fish–Wine Spectator* (v2018)

## VINEYARD

### Stoneridge Vineyard (100%)

Alluvial fan gravel bed, the site 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.

## WINEMAKING

**Varietal Breakdown:** 100% Syrah

**Appellation:** Royal Slope

**Production:** 1.8 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole cluster fermentation, 51 days on skins | 60% new French oak puncheons, 28 months barrel-aged on lees | 794 cases

**Wine Analysis:** 5.4 g/L titratable acidity, 3.95 pH, 14.5% alcohol, no residual sugar

**UPC:** 184745100031

