

2020 K PHIL LANE SYRAH

TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

The original K Vineyard. Tumbled river rock, lavender, violets. Cured meat, plum, stone. Classic expression of the highest order of Syrah. A wine to drink now or hold through the ages.



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

96 Points, James Suckling

"What peppery fragrance here with thyme, wild herbs, white and black peppercorns and bramble berry fruit aromas. Medium-to full-bodied, with tight-grained tannins and an infectious vivacity and energy. Drink from 2024."

95 Points, Anthony Mueller–Robert Parker's Wine Advocate

"With a savory and herbal nose... offers notes of rosemary, sage and bay leaf with soft meaty tones, juicy dark cherry and spiced plum aromas in the glass. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is fresh, floral and spicy with a delicate mineral tension that sways with succulent tannins and energetic acidity before concluding with a spicy, herbal-laced finish."

94 Points, Eric Guido-Vinous

"...wafts up with a classic mix of grilled herbs, smoky green olives and crushed slate. This is silky in feel, with a dense wave of mineral-laced black fruits and exotic spices that resonate throughout. Zesty acidity keeps the style lively, as grippy tannins tug at the cheeks, and nuances of sage and salted licorice slowly fade. Throw the Syrah Phil Lane into a blind tasting of Northern Rhône Syrah, and watch your fellow tasters struggle to figure out where it's from."

VINEYARD

Phil Lane Estate Vineyard (100%)

Located in the Walla Walla Valley, K's first estate vineyard and part of the original homestead property. Soil composition consists of Yakima cobbler loam in ancient riverbed. This well-drained site is part of the Mill Creek drainage system, resulting in a cooler climate than other parts of the valley. The vines are trained very low to take advantage of the radiant heat provided by the large cobbles.

WINEMAKING

Varietal Breakdown: 100% Syrah

Appellation: Walla Walla Valley

Production: 2.3 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole cluster fermentation in stainless steel, 51 days on skins I 21 months barrel-aged on lees in 40% new French oak puncheons I 106 cs **Wine Analysis**: 5.9 g/L titratable acidity I 3.85 pH I 14% alcohol I no residual sugar **UPC**: 184745001321