

# B. Leighton

## 2020 B. LEIGHTON SYRAH

### TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER BRENNON LEIGHTON

“Glorious, intriguing, and charming” are my first impressions of the sensations that rush out of the glass. Black plum, orange peel, tomato skin, and bacon fat, followed by a complex secondary explosion of wild blueberry, dark chocolate, black tea, nori, and grilled herbs. Fabulous, thought provoking, and absolutely delicious – what more can be said except pour me another glass!

### 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

#### 94+ Points, *Owen Bargreen–Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate*

“Layered and focused, the 2020 Syrah Olsen Brothers Vineyard begins with spicy dark red and black fruit tones. Full-bodied, spicy and lively, flavors of potpourri, black cherry and plum skin dance over the complex and food-friendly finish. Just under 1,800 bottles were made.”

#### 94 Points, *James Suckling*

“This is fragrant and spicy, with red and dark fruit, savory herbs and chocolate. Full and intense on the palate with fine-grained tannins and a creamy texture. Textured and refined, with a chocolatey mouth-feel. Firm, dark-fruited finish. Try from 2025.”

#### 93 Points, *Jeb Dunnuck*

“...darker fruited, with some classic ground pepper and chocolate notes in a medium to full-bodied, spicy, meaty, exotic style that’s already drinking nicely. It shows a touch of the firmer tannins of the vintage, yet this is well done and will evolve for upwards of a decade.”

#### 92 Points, *Eric Guido–Vinous*

“This is a spice box of a wine, as dusty rose, mint and burnt blood orange waft up from the 2020 Syrah. It envelopes the palate with silken textural fruits guided by brisk acids, as exotic inner florals cascade throughout. It finishes with a coating of fine tannins that tug at the palate, as lingering hints of licorice and clove slowly fade.”

### VINEYARD

#### Olsen Brothers Vineyard (100%)

Olsen Brothers is located on the Northwest bend of the Yakima River as it turns North at Red Mountain. The elevation averages about 1000 feet and the soils are sandy with broken basalt.

### WINEMAKING

**Varietal Breakdown:** 100% Syrah

**Appellation:** Yakima Valley

**Production:** 1.8 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole cluster fermentation in stainless steel rules, 37 days on skins | 18 months barrel-aged on lees in 10% new French oak puncheons, 147 cases produced

**Wine Analysis:** 6.1 g/L titratable acidity, 3.85 pH, 14.5% alcohol, no residual sugar

**UPC:** 184745007101

