

VANESSA

V I N E Y A R D

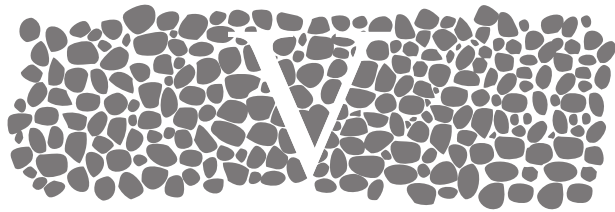


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SYRAH 2012 Tasting Notes

SYRAH 2012



Syrah 94% / Viognier 6%

Alcohol	14.5%
Residual Sugar	2.4 g/L
TA	6.0 g/L
Cases Produced	186
pH	3.69
Released	2015

Growing Conditions

During the 2012 growing season, late spring and early summer months experienced heavier than usual rainfall, generating dynamic growth that required the grower to substantially shoot thin and remove fruit to preserve the quality of the grapes. The end of the 2012 growing season finished with above average heat units allowing ripening to develop evenly through October, resulting in above average fruit quality.

Terrior and Microclimate

On the hillside overlooking the Similkameen Valley, Vanessa Vineyard grows its grapes on 75 acres of sloping, well drained, rocky terrain. The vines grow in rows of rocks, stressing the plants, absorbing the day heat and imparting that warmth during the cooler nights. This gives the grapes their unique and complex character. The west to southwest exposure on which the rocky vineyard sits is benefitted by the afternoon sun, which contributes to lengthening the growing season and producing low yields of intensely ripe fruit, while capturing the minerality of the soil on which it grows.

Winemaking

The grapes were destemmed and put through a gentle crush before small batch fermentation and hand punch down to maximize flavor and extraction. The Viognier was co-fermented with the Syrah in the traditional Rhone style. The wine was aged for 18 months in American and French oak, 60% of which were new barrels. Only 100% estate grown fruit was used in this wine. It is the winemaker's goal to produce a wine that is true to the heritage of the terrior. Special attention is paid to balance the oak with the fruit while integrating the minerality of the soil.

Flavour Profile

Deep purple/black in colour, the wine gives off a rich bouquet of dark plums and floral aromas with notes of cedar. This is a full bodied wine with soft tannins, good structure and concentrated flavours. Black fruits, leather, white pepper, and chocolate notes fill the mouth layered over silky tannins. The fruit and the oak are particularly well integrated. The long finish shows spice and smokey oak. You can enjoy this wine as you might any Syrah based northern Rhone red.