



**2012 Loess Vineyard Syrah**  
**Walla Walla Valley AVA | 275 Cases Produced**

**Vineyard**

100% Loess Vineyard, Leonetti Estate Syrah. Planted in 2001 and named after the vineyard's main soil structure. The Figgins family focuses on low intervention and low irrigation for this spot. They brew their own compost tea and have planted biodiverse indigenous plants to attract the proper bugs. The vineyard is both Vinea and Salmon Safe certified. The site is 23 acres at the foothills of the Blue Mountains on a steep south facing slope allowing for longer late afternoon sun exposure. Classic Rhone- savory, gamey, meaty notes from here. Nights are cooler, including later in the season, leading to bracing acidity and long ageing potential.

**Winemaker Notes**

Perfect growing seasons for a cooler climate vineyard- larger yields but fully phenolically ripe due to a warm and long season. 2012 was a consistent growing season with no heat spikes or cold scares between bud break and harvest, finishing off even through the end of October nicely. We've continued our tradition of co-fermenting with estate Viognier for added color stability. Due to rich and welcome ripeness, we were able to counter-balance with a departure from our normal to hit a debut of 20% new oak in the form of slow imparting tight grained 500 Liter French puncheons. This, led to more bottle ageing to balance the newer cooperage profile. By 2012, these vines had deeper root penetration through the loess and into bedrock. Now that these vines have finally matured and the root development has hit a basalt layer, we are getting more northern Rhone and earthy notes.

**Tasting Notes**

100% Syrah. Cumin and baking spices lead to hints of bacon. Kalamata olives, pencil shavings and dusty rose petals flow to rich, plum compote. A big mouthfeel is backed by sturdy tannins, while a strong acid backbone. Drink now through 2022.

**Awards/Accolades**

19.5/20 Points~ Rand Sealey, A Review of Washington Wines

