



2012 Washington State Syrah

Washington State AVA | 550 Cases Produced

Vineyard

Old Stones, Candy Mountain, Olsen Estates

A 15 acre property, Old Stones is one of the oldest vineyards planted “On the Rocks” in Milton Freewater. Originally acquired as an apple and plum orchard, Old Stones is located along an ancient river bed covered with massive basalt cobblestones, similar to the profile of vineyards found in the Châteauneuf-du-Pape region of Southern France. These cobblestones go very deep into the soil and retain heat during the day to then radiate that heat back to the vines during the cooler evening hours. This rocky section of the AVA is producing some of the most distinct and sought after wines in the Walla Walla Valley, especially for Syrah and Cabernet Franc. Given the depth and complexity of this fruit, and its distinct aromatics and flavors, this Syrah is certainly destined for a single vineyard bottling in the future.

Candy Mountain Vineyard was planted in 1998 and is managed by Tom Waliser. On a 5% south facing slope, this arid site is comprised of blow sand, gravel and granitic deposits. Similar to its slightly lower elevation neighbor Red Mountain, this site is low on rainfall and high on robust tannins and strong wind. Olsen Vineyard is a 765 acre vineyard planted predominantly in 1980, making this one of the older vineyards in the state. It is situated in the eastern end of the Yakima Valley AVA where the soil is comprised of shallow granitic deposits. Manager Leif Olsen has done an excellent job of making sure this vineyard is doing what it should- producing world class wines.

Winemaking

Blended yearly from several vineyards, this is our entry level Syrah and is indicative of our Rhone house style. With a splash of Grenache, this wine is a bit more approachable and bright while maintaining that earthy syrah you love. Aged in neutral oak only, to bring its natural earthy and savory aromas to the forefront. It’s all about the fruit here. Drinks well young.

Tasting Notes

100% Syrah. This beauty greets you with an earthy nose with hints of black truffles and rhubarb, followed by cedar, smoke and black currant on a long, lingering finish. The wine is aromatic and marked by many layers. This will be your ultimate summer grilling go-to wine.