



GUNKEL VINEYARD
2012 SYRAH
COLUMBIA VALLEY

Varietal Composition:	96% Syrah; 4% Viognier
Appellation:	Columbia Valley
Harvested:	October 2012
Bottled:	June 20, 2014
Technical Data:	Alc. 14.5% by vol.; RS: 0.02%; TA: 5.59 g/L; pH: 3.98
Cases Produced:	164
Production & Aging:	Co-fermented and aged 16 months in 40% new French Oak

THE VINTAGE

The 2012 vintage tracked as a wonderful year across all Washington state AVAs and was significantly warmer than the previous two years. The vintage was consistent in ripening without dramatic heat spikes which can cause undue stress on berry development. Color progressed earlier in the growing season allowing for full tannins to mature in the reds, as well as moderate alcohols and balanced acidity in both the whites and reds.

THE VINEYARD

Sourced from the award-winning Gunkel Vineyard (Estate) in Washington State's Columbia Valley AVA.

THE WINEMAKING

Throughout harvest, Winemaker Richard Batchelor worked closely with the grower and visited the vineyard to taste for maturity and ripeness to determine the precise moment to pick the fruit. Grapes were hand-harvested during the cool hours of the morning to preserve bright fruit notes. The Syrah and Viognier from our Estate Vineyard were co-fermented. The wine underwent a five day pre-fermentation cold soak before the tank was allowed to go through a native fermentation to dryness in about 21 days. Only the free run juice was collected and no press fraction was used in the making of this wine. This co-fermentation was performed to soften the tannins of the Syrah, enhance color and to impart the Viognier's floral characteristics into the wine. The wine was barrel aged 16 months as a single wine in new French oak. For the first year this wine was stirred in barrel on its lees and raked when necessary to soften the tannins. After the first 12 months, the wine was racked off the lees for clarity before bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Bold fruit flavors dominate with aromas of dark cherry and hints of leather. Balanced and approachable, this Syrah is a showcase to the quality of fruit from Gunkel Vineyard.

AWARDS

Double Gold, 2015 Seattle Wine Awards



Pacific Northwest Winery of the Year
Wine Press Northwest, 2015

Winery of the Year
San Francisco International, 2014

Top 10 Winery of the World
World Association of Wine Writers & Journalists, 2014

Winemaker of the Year
INDY International, 2013