



2019

Double River Vineyard

SYRAH



The versatility and uniqueness of various styles of Syrah around the world have always captured my attention and interest, guiding and motivating me to create our own distinct style at Basel Cellars. Our 2019 Double River Syrah is an expressive representation of the unique terroir of Blocks 7 and 8 at Double River Vineyard. About 25% of this wine was fermented on the stems, providing this Syrah with beautiful structure and complexity, and it remained on the skins for an extended period of time to enhance the volume, depth and tannin profile. It completed malolactic fermentation in neutral French oak, maintaining intense, savory Syrah tones during this critical stage. About 50% new oak was introduced after completion of secondary fermentation, allowing the rich and robust nuances to marry with the oak, lifting and preserving the varietal character. By implementing selective winemaking practices, we reveal both old and new world qualities in this wine.

The nose shows intense notes of over-ripe plum, dark cherry, rose petal, sweet cocoa and leather. The fruity, floral and waxy elements bring continued character to the aroma. The distinct earthy tones, along with warm wood accents, create suspense in the ever evolving bouquet, becoming more smoky and peppery after a short while. The mid-palate is multi-layered, with overripe red fruits leading the charge, creating a richness and complex mouthfeel. The subtle impact of the French oak lifts and surrounds the vivid "sweet" fruit. Generous tannin from the stems provides this wine with extra structure and length. This versatile Syrah can be enjoyed with a variety of foods, and will become more expressive when paired with a smoked pork tenderloin, wild pheasant or grilled Dorper lamb chops and mushroom sauce. Cheers!

- Dirk Brink, Winemaker

TECHNICAL DATA

VARIETIES: 100% Syrah

VINEYARD: Double River Vineyard

APPELLATION: Walla Walla Valley

OAK: 100% French, 50% new, 10 months

ALCOHOL: 15.3% **PH:** 4.02 **T.A.:** 4.8g/L **R.S.** 0.2g/L

PRODUCTION: 208 cases

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