



2008 Royal City Syrah — Columbia Valley
100% Syrah, Stoneridge Vineyard, Royal Slope

Tasting Notes:

One ton to the acre. Every vintage it just seems to get better. Deeper than the '06, more luxurious than the '07. Layer upon layer upon layer. Earth, cool stone, tobacco, faint dark fruit, Asian five spice. Harmonic, complex, ethereal. Its hard to know where the wine ends and you begin. The very best to date.

99pts (2007 Vintage) Robert Parker's Wine Advocate

"Made with 100% whole clusters. An inky purple/black in color, it deals out aromas of mineral, truffle, espresso, licorice, lavender, incense, and blueberry. Super complex, suave and debonair on the palate, this is a lengthy, concentrated, impeccably balanced, complete Syrah that will benefit from a decade of cellaring but is almost too addictive to resist now. Those with will power who are able to delay gratification will be well rewarded for cellaring this beauty for a decade or more."

(2006 Vintage) 100pts and "#2" Top 100 Wines 2009, Wine Enthusiast; 98pts Robert Parker's Wine Advocate; 97pts Wine Spectator

Technical Information

Vineyard: Stoneridge Vineyard is located northeast of the Wahluke Slope AVA, across the Saddle Mountains, near Royal City. It is also the fruit source for Heart, Skull, and Old Bones. The 2008 Royal City Syrah is a blend of fruit primarily from the southern section of the vineyard. Very rocky soils—in fact 6 different kinds—make up the complex profile of aptly named Stoneridge. A windy site, it naturally controls vigor and reduces yields, only 1.7 tons per acre. The fruit is thick skinned and produces nearly black juice and robust yet supple tannins, adding to the aging potential of the wine.

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