



Great Northwest Wine

Kiona Vineyards and Winery 2012 Chenin Blanc, Columbia Valley, \$15

July 9th, 2013

Best Buy! The three-generation Williams family remains faithful champions of this charming variety that has cast a spell on visitors since its first release in 1980. JJ Williams, the clan's charismatic sales manager, is happy to report Chenin Blanc is "by far our most popular white wine in the tasting room." It's easy to see why, especially at this time of year with huge tropical aromatics of pineapple, papaya and jasmine. Those tropical flavors continue, met by lingering acidity to balance the residual sugar of 1.4%. Harvest came Sept. 28 off the estate vineyard on Red Mountain, and yet they choose to label it Columbia Valley. "If you're trying to sell an off-dry unoaked white wine out in the market, Columbia Valley resonates more with buyers than Red Mountain," Williams said.

Rating: Excellent