

2013 Columbia Valley Late Harvest Riesling

This Late Harvest offering from the Columbia Valley represents an interesting niche in our portfolio. Well-made dessert wines are loved by two very different types of wine consumers: neophyte wine drinkers and serious wine nerds. Both are important groups to cater to and both enjoy the wine for different reasons.

It's easy to see the appeal to those new to wine. The wine is obviously very sweet, but the sugar is balanced by a puckering acidity brought on by Washington's cool summer nights. It's important when making a dessert wine to balance sugar with acidity; otherwise the finished product can be cloying, flabby, and syrupy.

Serious wine nerds can appreciate well-made dessert wines because they understand the interesting food pair-ability they offer as well as the simple delight of "drinking dessert." The sweetness afforded by a wine in this style allows for atypical food pairings, namely spicy dishes from Thailand and Mexico.

Our 2013 Late Harvest Riesling is a three vineyard blend, and each component brings something interesting to the finished product. Riesling from Willard vineyard in the Yakima Valley comprises the backbone of the wine. The old-vine plantings there contribute to some of the finest Rieslings in the Northwest. We share a long working relationship with Crawford vineyard, whose Riesling grapes add finesse and aromatics in the blend. Lastly, a significant Gewürztraminer addition from our own Ranch at the End of the Road vineyard rounds out the profile with a lovely spice/savory component.

We cold-ferment all three components in stainless steel to bring out fresh fruit characteristics and to preserve the slightest of frizzante elements to the finished product, a trademark Kiona stylistic decision that accentuates the crisp, delightful nature of this wine.

- JJ Williams



Appellation

Columbia Valley

Vineyard Sources

58% Willard - Yakima Valley, WA

31% Crawford - Yakima Valley, WA

11% Ranch at the End of the Road - Red Mountain, WA

Varietal Composition

89% Riesling

11% Gewürztraminer

Barrel Treatment

N/A - 100% Stainless

Case Production

1,743 cases, 12x750 mL, bottled 5/6/2014 & 5/8/2014

Technical Data

Ph - 3.25

TA - 0.980

Residual Sugar - 8.3%

Alcohol - 9.9%