

2012 Washington State Riesling

The humble Riesling grape has made a name for itself here in Washington state, helped in no small part by the fantastic wines by Chateau Ste. Michelle and others. We have been producing Riesling here since 1983 and have found it to be particularly well-suited to our climate.

Eastern Washington's uniquely cool summer nights and hot summer days contribute greatly to the wines we grow here, and perhaps no white varietal benefits from this climatic quirk more than Riesling. In most wine producing areas around the world famous for Riesling, the weather is comparatively cool and damp. This allows for bright acidity but a distinct lack of ripening ability.

In Washington, however, we have the benefit of having powerful ripening ability as well as bright acidity, both of which are desirable traits for the crisp profile sought after in Riesling.

At Kiona Vineyards and Winery, we use several sites in the immediate area that each bring something special to the finished product. In fact, we pick each site at different ripeness levels to bring out a multitude of flavors that might be absent were we to pick all at the same time.

The Kiona Estate vineyard, for example, is best at producing Rieslings on the drier side, so they are picked earlier in the season. The cooler Vista and Willard vineyards are great for off-dry wines, and we pick those grapes spot-on. The Gewürztraminer addition from our very warm Ranch at the End of the Road vineyard is actually a late harvest in terms of sweetness.

By blending all of these qualities together in one wine, we capture a flavor profile that would be difficult to achieve otherwise. Each site produces wines with inherent strengths, and our blending process brings out a finished product greater than the sum of its parts.

- JJ Williams



Appellation

Washington State

Vineyard Sources

43% Kiona Estate - Red Mountain, WA

39% Vista - Columbia Valley, WA

11% Willard Vineyard - Yakima Valley, WA

7% Ranch at the End of the Road - Red Mountain, WA

Varietal Composition

93% Riesling

7% Gewürztraminer

Barrel Treatment

N/A - 100% Stainless

Case Production

4054 cases, 12x750 mL, bottled 2/21, 4/12, 7/10, & 7/12

Technical Data

Ph - 3.27

TA - 0.862

Residual Sugar - 2.0%

Alcohol - 12.3%