



2018 SAGGI
Columbia Valley

Tasting Notes: Easily one of our favorite Saggi bottlings to date, this wine showcases the quality of our vineyard sites and the warmth of the growing season. A brilliant garnet-red, the 2018 Saggi is elaborately fragrant, brimming with red cherries, ripe strawberries and notes of nutmeg. Vibrant and well-integrated with balanced natural acidity, this is a textured wine with great richness and flavors that linger across a generous finish. Drinking beautifully now, the wine's concentration and structure also make it an excellent candidate for the cellar.

Vintage: After a slow start to spring, the 2018 growing season heated up quickly. Temperatures stayed quite warm throughout the summer, then the weather moderated significantly in early September to extend hangtime. Harvest conditions were ideal as the Columbia Valley settled into a pattern of warm days and cool nights to slow ripening just enough to allow the grapes to mature fully without sacrificing acidity. The result is a vintage marked by balanced, concentrated wines with appealing texture and richness.

Winemaking: Handpicked grapes were gently crushed and fermented in small, two-ton tanks, then using a technique called saignée (French for "to bleed") 5-10% of the juice was removed from the tank at the beginning of fermentation to increase the proportion of grape skins to juice. By increasing the juice to skin ratio, more color, flavor and tannins were extracted from the grapes. Small lot, extended maceration for an average of 30 days provided refined tannins and a lavish mouthfeel. Aged 18 months in all French oak barrels (55% new).

Vineyards: Saggi is a blend of two distinct Washington State Sangiovese vineyards, both planted in 1998 on sites with well-draining soils, important to managing Sangiovese's vine vigor and controlling berry size. Candy Mountain Sangiovese is a warm vineyard that delivers grapes with ripe, black currant aromas and flavors. Boushey Vineyard Sangiovese, grown in the Yakima Valley, is a cooler site that brings brightness and balanced acidity to the blend. Cabernet Sauvignon from Stone Tree Vineyard on the Wahluke Slope adds a silky texture to the wine. Syrah adds a darker hue and another layer of complexity.

Blend: 58% Sangiovese
30% Cabernet Sauvignon
12% Syrah

Alcohol: 14.8%
pH: 3.70
TA: 0.63 grams/100m
Production: 2,260 cases