



2020 ORR Grenache
BLEND: 100% Grenache
VINEYARD: Stillwater Creek
AVA: Royal Slope
PLANTED: 2004
AGING: 9 months in old French
oak barrels
BOTTLING: unfinned and unfiltered
ALCOHOL: 14.6%
WINERY RETAIL: \$25
CASE PRODUCTION: 148 cases

The 2020 vintage of my Grenache is 100% Grenache all sourced from Stillwater Creek vineyard in the newly minted Royal Slope AVA within Columbia Valley. This part of the Washington state near Royal City, WA is defined by a ridge of hills running east to west. Vines are planted at relatively high elevation on this ridge (1600ft) with a steep south facing exposure. There is great air drainage, the cold air doesn't pool here in frost season and in the summer it doesn't get quite as hot as some of the neighboring AVAs that are lower elevation. Even in hot vintages, the wines grown here retain freshness. The soils are decomposed basalt, rocky and volcanic, very poor with little water holding capacity. The grenache vines here were planted in 2004 and are sustainably farmed by Ed Kelly, the vineyard manager I have been working with for years for my consulting client, Baer Winery.

On September 24, 2020 a couple tons of Grenache were hand picked and destemmed and fermented in open top bins. After 11 days on the skins, we drained and pressed to 6 neutral French oak barrels where the wine aged for 9 months. 148 cases were bottled without fining or filtration under TCA free DIAM cork closures.

Tasting notes:

The color is translucent ruby and the nose is full of red fruits like cranberry, raspberry and pomegranate. There's a hint of black tea and fennel. In the mouth it feels fresh and bright and the finish is mouthwatering.

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