

STOLPMAN

ORIGINALS SYRAH

BALLARD CANYON
2020

100% Syrah
560 cases produced

VINEYARD

Components

Originals Syrah planted in 1993,
Durrell Vineyard Strain

Harvest Date

September 16

WINERY

Vinification

33% whole-cluster, natively
fermented in unsealed
concrete

Vatting/Fermentation

Pumped over daily with only 3
total punch downs. Only free
run juice used in final cuvee, no
press wine

Cooperage & Elevage

19 months in neutral 500L
French Ermitage oak
puncheons

14.1% Alc by Vol

BACKGROUND

The Originals Syrah vines are not only our "Original" planting, but they are the oldest vines in Ballard Canyon AVA. The wine made from these vines in the mid 1990's generated the Syrah-planting fervor which eventually led to the publication of Ballard Canyon AVA. Because we withhold irrigation for months on end during our arid growing season, these vines have rooted deeply into our limestone in search of moisture. They yield small crops of tiny, concentrated grapes.

VINTAGE

The 2020 vintage started with much needed late rain in March and April. The cold moisture pushed back bud break and set up an anticipated late harvest. Ripening then accelerated with record breaking heat recorded in early September.

SENSORY

The 2020 Originals impresses with its sheer scope: a vast spectrum from lifted to candied red fruit immediately enters into an exotic, forested wilderness. Meaty, smoky umami and sangre awaken the carnal appetite. All of these sensations thrust into overdrive while the wine is young and within a few years the forces will unite into one beautiful being. Certainly one of the most age-worthy wines from the heralded 2020 vintage, which makes sense, as it is the very last cuvee from 2020 to be released.

∞ Estate, So Fresh, Combe ∞

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