STOLPMAN

ORIGINALS

100% Syrah 550 cases produced



Oldest Syrah Vines in Ballard Canyon AVA

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.

2021 goes down as a textbook Ballard Canyon vintage. Low winter rainfall allowed for most bud-break to occur by mid-March, and with the help of moderate weather, the vines grew and ripened evenly straight through to the end of harvest. We harvested the mature, low-yielding Original vines right on schedule in mid-October, taking our time, picking each micro-block at optimal ripeness. A spectrum of red, blue, and black fruit pack into an opaque, luxuriously sleek mid-palate before crunchy, youthful tannin. The big, rich, coating body beckons for the savory, dry finish. One of the densest Originals vintage in the fourteen year history of the cuvee. The hedonistic waves begin to envelope the pronounced tannin within minutes of breathing, giving a glimmer forward to maybe 2026 when this wine will hit its next level and fall into a beautiful 10 year stride thereafter.

Vintage 2021

Region Stolpman Estate Vineyard, Ballard Canyon AVA

Components Durell and Estrella River Syrah blocks planted in 1992 and 1993

Farming Certified Orangic & Biodynamic

Harvest Date October 13-20

Vinification 50% whole-cluster, 50% de-stemmed

Vatting/Fermentation Native fermentation in concrete tanks

Cooperage & Elevage 19 months in Neutral French oak 500L Puncheons

14% Alc by Vol