

GRAMERCY CELLARS



2015 LAGNIAPPE SYRAH

COLUMBIA VALLEY



BLEND: 100% SYRAH

VINEYARDS: RED WILLOW, FORGOTTEN HILLS

AGING: 18 MONTHS IN NEUTRAL FRENCH
OAK PUNCHEONS

ALCOHOL: 13.7%

WINERY RETAIL: 60

CASE PRODUCTION: 586 CASES

DRINKING WINDOW: 2019 - 2034

WINE ADVOCATE: 95 POINTS

JEB DUNNUCK: 98 POINTS

Sauer Family. Red Willow Vineyard. 2015 Vintage. Mic drop...

Jeb Dunnuck 98 points

"Always one of my favorite releases from this estate, the 2015 Lagniappe Syrah is 100% Syrah (mostly from the Red Willow Vineyard in Yakima, with 5% from the Forgotten Hills Vineyard just south of Walla Walla). Deep ruby/plum-colored and loaded with Cote Rotie-like (Cote Blonde?) notes of black raspberries, tapenade, and crushed flowers, this beauty is medium to full-bodied, seamless, and silky on the palate, with incredible finesse and elegance. It's going to benefit from 3-4 years of bottle age and knock your socks off over the following decade or more. It's unquestionably one of the wines of the vintage."

I don't know what more to say. We are ecstatic about the reviews for this wine. I can't say we did anything different with the Lagniappe this year, except picking a bit lower Brix in 2015 than previous years. The wine is 13.7% alcohol. (What is ripeness? Discuss?) As always, the wine is fermented around 100% whole cluster, fermented in concrete for 21ish days and aged in neutral French 500-Liter puncheons.

The 2015 is technically a single vineyard Red Willow bottling. American AVA law allows 5% of other vineyards in a blend to be labeled single vineyard. Starting in 2016, Lagniappe will always be a single vineyard bottling, as will most of our Rhone wines.

Is this the best Lagniappe to date? Honestly, I am not sure. Right now, I think the 2010 is our best. But its oh so close. The 2010 may be a bit more aromatically complex, but the 2015 has more mid-palate power. Both are stunning wines. I can't wait to taste both side by side in five years, ten years, twenty years. Who wants to come to those parties?

TASTING NOTES: BLACK OLIVE, ASIAN SPICE, RED FLOWERS, RED CURRANT, GARRIGUE, BLACK PEPPER, SALUMI, SUPER AROMATIC. EXPLODES ON THE MID-PALATE, A BIT MORE BLUE FRUIT ON THE PALATE. FIRM ACIDITY AND MEDIUM-PLUS TANNINS. THIS WILL AGE FOR A LONG TIME AND IMPROVE FOR MANY, MANY YEARS. PERHAPS OUR BEST LAGNIAPPE TO DATE.



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