

WASHINGTON HILLS



2004 SHIRAZ COLUMBIA VALLEY

VARIETY BLEND

100% Shiraz

BOTTLING

pH: 3.76

TA: 0.62

ALC: 13.5%

Columbia Valley

Washington's success with vinifera is due in large measure to the state's unique geography. The vineyards are planted on the east side of the Cascade Mountains, which serve to protect the region from marine weather off the Pacific coast and limit rainfall to just 6 - 8 inches annually. Low rainfall and free-draining soils allow vineyard managers to control vine vigor in order to promote flavor and ripen fruit to perfection. Cool autumn nights protect the grapes' natural acidity.

Tasting Notes

The nose is filled with dark aromas of grilled meats, leather and a bit of floral notes. Flavors of bacon, grilled meats and leather are present on the palate rounded out by black cherry on the finish.

Vintage Notes

The Columbia Valley's hot growing season in 2004 followed by a cool fall created a longer harvest that resulted in wines with ripe, rich flavors. Hot dry weather in August gave way to cooler temperatures and light rain in mid-September, slowing harvest and extending hang time. Warm, dry weather resumed in early October, giving us bright and concentrated fruit.

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