

Vineyard Profiles

Armada—Stony, ancient riverbed, floor of the Walla Walla Valley, biodynamically farmed—supplies the Grenache found in K Vintners' The Boy, a Grenache / Syrah blend.

Cougar Hills Vineyard—located in the far south of the Walla Walla Valley, like its name implies on a hill, the soils are a composite of loam, river rock and gravel—a layer of volcanic ash about 3 feet below the soil surface adds complexity. Considered very cobbly, Freewater loam, planted in 2000, sustainably farmed. A K Vintners single vineyard Cougar Hills Syrah.

Dionysius—Established in 1975, from some of the oldest established vineyards in the Columbia Valley. Ephrata Silt Loam. A warm site tempered by wind and close proximity to the Columbia River. Cabernet Sauvignon from this site is part of the Honorable Cabernet Sauvignon.

En Cerise Vineyard—Freewater formation, very cobbly loam - Cobbles over gravel over sand, ancient, dried riverbed, floor of the Walla Walla Valley, biodynamically farmed. Planted in 1997. Found in K Vintners The Creator and Ovide.

En Chamberlin—Freewater cobble-y loam over gravel sand, and ancient dried riverbed located on the floor of the Walla Walla Valley, biodynamically farmed. Planted in 1997. Found in K Vintners field blends, El Jefe and Roma.

Evergreen—Planted in 1998 by the Milbrandt family, the vineyard rows lie along a stretch of steep cliffs above the Columbia River, in a newly proposed AVA: 'Ancient Lakes.' A cooler site due to river influence, the soils are composed of clay, silt, and caliche, deposited during ice age floods. The CSW Kung Fu Girl Riesling comes from the unique, single vineyard.

Jones —Farmed by the Milbrandt family in the foothills of the Saddle Mountains; deep silt loam with cobbles, caliche, basalt, high iron struggling vines. Planted in 1991. The Malbec found in the CSW Chateau Smith is grown here.

LeFore —Stony, ancient riverbed, located on the floor of the Walla Walla Valley. The vineyard varieties consist of a 'field blend' of 80% Sangiovese and 20% Syrah. Freewater Very Cobbly Loam - Cobbles over gravel over sand, dried riverbed. In the rocky soils of this part of the Valley, low vigor keeps flavors concentrated. Found in K Vintners Guido, a Sangiovese blend.

Morrison Lane—Oldest syrah plantings in Walla Walla Valley, Southeastern, cooler sight running up into the foothills of the Blues—very rocky, ancient riverbed soil composition: Touchet silt loam and riverwash - sandy loam with coarse sand and gravel, sustainably farmed. Planted in 1994. The eponymous K Morrison Lane Syrah hails from here.

Pheasant —Planted in 2000 is known for large areas of well-drained, sandy gravelly soils deposited by ancient glacial floods. Located in the Wahluke Slope AVA. Quincy Loamy Fine Sand - Sandy Loam over Sand. Found in the K Pheasant Vineyard Syrah.

Phil Lane —Our estate vineyard, 2 acres planted in 2001, extremely rocky soils, extremely low yields 1.6 tons per acre, 1,200 feet elevation, Walla Walla Valley. Yakima Cobbly Loam - Cobbly dried riverbed, sustainably. The Phil Lane Syrah is our only estate wine and sold only at the tasting room.

Royal Slope Area—Malaga Cobbly Sandy Loam; cobbles and sandy loam over coarse sand. The vineyard responsible for the Charles Smith Wines Royal City, Heart, Skull, and Old Bones Syrahs.

Stoneridge Vineyard—located northeast of the Wahluke Slope AVA, across the Saddle Mountains, near Royal City. It was the fruit source for Heart, Skull, and Old Bones in 2005. The 2006 Royal City Syrah is a blend of fruit from primarily the southern section of the vineyard. Very rocky soils—in fact six different kinds—make up the complex profile of aptly named Stoneridge. A windy site, the fruit is thick skinned and produces nearly black juice as well as controlling vigor, naturally reducing yields—only 1.7 tons per acre in 2006—and robust, yet supple tannins, adding to the aging potential to the wine.

Spofford Station Vineyard—Palouse Silt Loam; Walla Walla Valley site at high elevation, sustainably farmed. Planted in 1999. Cabernet Franc for the CSW Chateau Smith and Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot for the Honorable Cabernet Sauvignon.

Sundance Vineyard—This vineyard has a slight northerly slope which in turn provides a cooler site in a very warm growing region. Soils consist of 18 inches of sandy loam over a deep layer of coarse dark gray sand—providing good soil drainage. Planted in 1997 in the Wahluke AVA. This vineyard is only miles from Pheasant Vineyard, but with such different soils, produces a completely different wine profile. Timmerman Loamy Sand, loamy sand over sand over coarse sand. Found in K Syrah “The Deal” Sundance Vineyard.

Wells —Half an acre planted in rocky soils 1,500 ft up the south fork of the Walla Walla River, in the Walla Walla Valley AVA. K Vintners produced an incredibly lovely, small lot Syrah from this vineyard in 2002, 2003, 2005, and the last vintage is 2006.

Archie Den Hoed, Block 13—Located in the Yakima Valley area on a high bluff, at good elevation, slightly windy site, which limits vigor. Soils consist of silt loam over basalt, Warm days and cool nights provide optimal acid retention. Planted in 1990. K Viognier comes from this vineyard.

Upland—Farmed by the Milbrandt family in the Columbia Valley; steep south facing slope; lacustrine silts over Ellensburg formation, high pH soil. Planted in 1993. The Cabernet Sauvignon in CSW Chateau Smith is grown here.