



2006 K Syrah Phil Lane — Walla Walla Valley (100% Syrah)

Tasting Notes: This wine smells of violets and lavender. In the mouth it is so opulent, but so feminine. Roasted meat, game, and cool stone. Named for a man but also made for women.—*Charles Smith*

Technical Information

Vineyards: Located in the Walla Walla Valley AVA, K's only estate vineyard and part of the original homestead property. Soil composition consists of Yakima cobble-y loam in ancient dried riverbed - planted in 2002. This well-drained site is part of the Mill Creek drainage system, resulting in a cooler climate than other parts of the Valley. The vines are trained very low to take advantage of the radiant heat provided by the large cobbles. Floral aromatics like lavender and lilac are common. The vineyard is named for Native American, Phil Lane Sr. who raised his family on the property. His colorful past included amateur and professional boxing, the first Native American to obtain a degree in forestry, two citations from President Lyndon B. Johnson, a passion for training quarter horses, a love for the Wallowa and Blue Mountains. Beginning in 2009, this vineyard will be farmed with draft horses.

Elevage: A very consistent growing season—including a hot summer—brought out darker fruit characteristics. The vineyard was harvested in 2 sections—the front section ripening earlier, providing a 'pretty' component and the back half ripening later, adding an unmistakable intensity. The grapes were foot-crushed, fermented with native yeasts and basket pressed, yielding this wine's usual thumbprint: "like a new world Hermitage." Aged for 18 months in 100% French oak—33% new—aromatics reminiscent of old world syrahs predominate, such as ground white pepper, blackberry brambles and florals such as lilacs. A distinctive earthiness recalls the river rock the vines are grown in. Only 140 cases were made of the 2006 vintage.

Release date: December 2008
Alcohol: 14.5%
Total Acid: .59
PH: 3.78
Residual Sugar: none
Suggested Retail: \$70

