

2012 Poet's Leap Riesling Columbia Valley Armin Diel

Inspired by the great wines of Germany and crafted by Armin Diel, proprietor of the renowned Schlossgut Diel.

Tasting Notes: With wonderful brightness and purity of flavor, the 2012 Poet's Leap is a vibrant, refined wine showing impeccable balance. Layers of minerality, white flowers, dried apricots, refreshing citrus and a hint of honey provide complexity that lingers across the wine's clean finish.

Vintage: Consistent, warm temperatures without any heat spikes produced a picture-perfect growing season in 2012. Harvest yielded Riesling with complex, fresh flavors and wonderful natural acidity, due in part to the Columbia Valley's warm days and cool nights as well as canopy management throughout the summer. To protect the fruit from too much sun, Long Shadows' director of winemaking and viticulture, Gilles Nicault, worked with growers to develop a large outside leaf canopy, allowing for leaf stripping inside the canopy to open up the fruit zone and facilitate good air flow, even maturation and thorough flavor development in the grapes.

Winemaking: Hand-harvested grapes were gently sorted and whole cluster pressed to avoid any bitterness while enhancing clean, crisp character and freshness in the finished wine. Fermented at a cool 60°F in stainless steel tanks using a collection of German yeasts, Armin Diel selected his favorite lots of the vintage to achieve a lively Riesling styled with a racy, complex character.

Vineyards: The 2012 Poet's Leap Riesling brings together a distinct collection of Columbia Valley vineyards, each contributing unique components to the finished wine. Long Shadows' own Sonnet Vineyard at The Benches in the Horse Heaven Hills (59%) forms the basis for the blend. Planted in 2004 with German clones in close consultation with Armin, Sonnet gives the wine its delicious minerality. Yakima Valley's Phil Church Vineyard (27%) and Underwood Mountain Vineyard in the Columbia Gorge (4%) both contribute bright citrus and acidity. Tri-Cities' Sagemoor Vineyards (10%) adds a delicate hint of sweetness and a rich mouth feel.

Residual Sugar: 1.25 g/100 mL Alcohol: 12.9% pH: 3.04 TA: 0.78 grams / 100ml Production: 3,575 cases

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