



2004 Saggi
Columbia Valley
Ambrogio and Giovanni Folonari

The Folonaris are among Italy's oldest and most prestigious Tuscan wine families with a winemaking history dating back to the late 1700's.

Tasting Notes: Layers of black fruit aromas and flavors are woven around a spicy vanilla core. Velvety and concentrated on the palate, this is a lively, well-balanced wine with a rich and lengthy black cherry finish.

Vintage: The Columbia Valley's 2004 vintage required meticulous care in the vineyard and those who did were rewarded with beautifully elegant, well-balanced wines. Long Shadows resident winemaker Gilles Nicault invested hundreds of hours in the vineyards from the first of the year through harvest after a harsh January freeze left everyone anxious about damage to the vines. Gilles worked with growers to manage crop loads and canopy exposure throughout the growing season. He asked growers to prune to two buds in the early spring, despite freeze damage to the primary buds; thin at bloom; thin and drop green clusters at veraison; and finally, leaf thin in September to open up the canopy and promote even ripening. As a result, Long Shadows' blocks averaged 1 – 2 tons per acre, just slightly less than a "typical" year, producing wonderfully ripened, flavorful fruit.

Winemaking: Hand-picked grapes were fermented in two-ton tanks, with particular care given to the Sangiovese, a delicate grape that requires gentle handling to avoid green character. Aged in French oak barrels for 18 months.

Vineyards: From the start, the Folonaris sought to make a wine true to Columbia Valley *terroir* but with plenty of Tuscan character; and it was the dark, elegant Sangiovese and Cabernet Sauvignon that perfectly complemented it from Alder Ridge Vineyard in the Horse Heaven Hills that convinced them they could make such a wine. Only the Syrah (a combination of Yakima and Wahluke Slope vineyards) in Saggi is not from Alder Ridge.

Alcohol: 14.5%

pH: 3.84

TA: 0.54 grams / 100ml

Blend: 35% Sangiovese
35% Cabernet Sauvignon

16% Syrah, 14% Barbera

Release date: October 2006

Production: 633 cases