

2016 Poet's Leap Riesling Columbia Valley

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

Tasting Notes: The 2016 vintage of Poet's Leap is an off-dry Riesling with expressive, spicy aromatics and generous, lively flavors. Fresh melon, honey, ripe apricot and a hint of citrus jump on the palate leaving a vibrant, racy impression and a long, clean finish.

Vintage: The 2016 vintage was another hot growing season that required extra care in the vineyard to preserve the Riesling's fresh, bright character. Building on the success of our canopy management program the last few vintages, we worked with growers throughout the season to encourage growth of the canes and outside foliage to protect against the sun while opening up the fruit zone for even maturation. Warm temperatures in the fall hastened ripening, but the Columbia Valley's cool autumn nights gave us fresh, ripe fruit with balanced natural acidity.

Winemaking: Handpicked grapes were sorted and gently whole cluster pressed to avoid imparting bitterness in the finished wine before fermenting in stainless steel tanks at a cool 60°F to preserve fresh fruit aromas and flavors. Afterwards, the winemaking team carefully evaluated each lot, using only those components that contributed to a perfectly balanced final blend.

Vineyards: The 2016 Poet's Leap Riesling brings together a varied collection of Columbia Valley vineyards. Roughly half of the blend is from German clones planted in the Horse Heaven Hills high above the Columbia River, selected to give this wine its distinct minerality. Yakima Valley's Phil Church Vineyard (12%) adds bright acidity. Sagemoor Farms Vineyards (16%) bring apricot and honey to the final blend, and Underwood Mountain (9%) in the Columbia Gorge enhances the wine's lively, assertive character.

Residual Sugar: 1.1 g/100 mL Alcohol: 12.5% pH: 2.91 TA: 0.7 grams / 100ml Production: 4,900 cases Release: August 2017