



2009 Sequel Syrah
Columbia Valley
John Duval, Winemaker

After 16 years as winemaker for Australia’s iconic Penfolds Grange, John Duval came to the Columbia Valley in 2003 as the “sequel” to his life’s work with Syrah.

Tasting Notes: Opaque and blue-ish purple in color, this is an expressive wine offering vibrant aromas of sweet dark fruits, grilled meats and freshly roasted chestnuts. Dark cherry flavors laced with notes of nutmeg and savory spice are framed by refined tannins and a delicate acidity that lingers on the finish.

Vintage: The 2009 growing season got off to a slow start with unusually cool temperatures throughout the spring. By June, temperatures warmed considerably and ideal growing conditions persisted through September. A near perfect summer and lower than average yields caused the grapes to ripen quickly and evenly, sparking one of the earliest and fastest harvests on record while producing wines with deep color and exceptional concentration.

Winemaking: Carefully selected, hand-harvested grapes underwent a variety of fermentation techniques to produce a wide spectrum of flavors. These practices included fermenting a portion of the lots at cooler temperatures to slow fermentation and preserve bright fruit character in the wine. John also employed an Australian technique known as “rack and return” that allows for gentle treatment of the berries at peak fermentation to extract optimal color and richness. The finished wine was aged 18 months in French oak (65% new) barrels.

Vineyards: Yakima Valley’s Boushey Vineyard (45%), an exceptional site for Syrah, provided grapes with ripe fruit character and bright acidity in 2009. These lots are the perfect complement to the dense, dark fruit grown at Bacchus Vineyard (22%) from one of the oldest Syrah blocks in the state. Red Mountain and surrounding area vineyards (20%) contributed richness and depth which give the 2009 Sequel its backbone. Vineyards in the Horse Heaven Hills complete the blend, adding a layer of refined tannins and silky texture.

Alcohol: 14.8%

pH: 3.68

TA: 0.61grams / 100ml

Blend: 99% Syrah; 1% Cabernet Sauvignon

Release Date: January 2013

Production: 1,107 cases