

Iris  
VINEYARDS



## 2018 STEELHEAD RUN SYRAH

Applegate Valley

World-class, award winning wines from grapes grown at Steelhead Run Vineyard.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

Syrah has always been a varietal for which I've had a particularly strong passion. The folks at Steelhead Run Vineyard share this passion and it shows in the high quality grapes they grow year after year. Several clones are grown at Steelhead and, after speaking with the grower, we decided on this blend of clones plus a small amount of Viognier to arrive at the flavor profile I had in mind which is fruit forward but with plenty of spice. The grapes were hand picked on October 17<sup>th</sup> and transported to our winery in a refrigerated truck. Upon arrival we destemmed to 1.25 ton fermenters and inoculated the next day. Fermentation lasted 12 days. We pressed at dryness and racked to barrel after settling in tank for about 12 hours.

### VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2018 vintage got off to a slightly slow start with budbreak occurring about 1 week later than the 25 year average at Steelhead Run. Winter and spring rainfall were less than average. Wide ranging temperature cycles following budbreak were still warm enough overall that bloom and veraison both occurred on about the average dates. Tight labor supply was an ongoing challenge and so, vineyard owners Laurie and Ron continued to do more vineyard work themselves. Yield for the year was marginally higher than average and harvest wound up being about a week earlier than the 25 year average at Steelhead Run Vineyard in spite of multiple rainstorms during the ripening period.

### TECHNICAL DATA

**VARIETIES** 96% Syrah, 4% Viognier

**AVA** Applegate Valley

**TA** 6.4g/L

**RESIDUAL SUGAR** 0.1g/L

**ALCOHOL** 14.4%

**pH** 3.71

**ELEVAGE** 100% French Oak, 4-year old  
Barrels

**CLONES** Hermitage, Entav 470, 877, and 383

**VINEYARDS** Steelhead Run Vineyard

**SOIL TYPES** Newberg, Camas and Evans

**HARVESTED** October 2018

**BOTTLED** September 2019

**CELLARING** 2-7 years

**RELEASED** June 2020

**CASES** 100

**WINEMAKER** Aaron Lieberman  
**PROPRIETOR** Pamela Frye

**SRP:** \$25.99