

2021 "SHEPHERDS MARK"

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TASTING NOTES

In the early 1900s, pioneering Sheepherders left their mark on the Horse Heaven Hills in the form of rock monuments. Many still stand along the ridgeline of our Estate Destiny Ridge Vineyard. Alexandria Nicole Cellars was the first to produce this classic Estate Rhone blend of Roussanne, Marsanne, and Viognier in Washington State and it has been our signature white wine since 2004. While this blend has been historically Roussanne-based, the warmer-than-average vintage begged for the Viognier to take lead this year. This very aromatic blend is bursting with tropical fruit, mandarin orange, pear, and some beautiful back notes of white flowers. The medium-bodied palate does a nice job of retaining elegance while showing off many different flavors including white peach, tangerine, apricot, and honeyed almonds. The finish is full and juicy with notes and textures of mineral and wet stone. This versatile wine will pair well with a variety of different foods including seafood dishes with crab and lobster, spicy Thai cuisine, cream sauces, and brie or goat cheese. Serve chilled.

VINTAGE

The 2021 vintage was a great one. Early season heat led to smaller berry and cluster sizes which created fruit with great concentration and a smaller yield. The warmer than average vintage led to very fruit-forward wines with a lot of ripe, fruity aromatics. And probably the best news of all, we managed to avoid smoke and an early freeze this year.



APPELLATION: Columbia Valley

AGING: Stainless Steel Fermentation

Alexandria Nicole

WINE MAKING Jarrod L. Boyle TEAM: & Reid Klei

ALCOHOL: 13.2%

pH: 3.35

TA: 7.4 g/L

Roussanne
Block 18
30%
Marsanne
Block 35

36%
Viognier
Block 19

SOIL

Sandy Loam Missoula Flood Sediment Hill Slope Rubble

ABOUT ALEXANDRIA NICOLE CELLARS

Founders Jarrod and Ali Boyle are dedicated to producing small lots of hand-crafted wine from our own Destiny Ridge Estate Vineyard. Through attentive viticulture management, balanced crop levels, gentle hand-harvesting and processing of grapes, and passionate winemaking, we produce consistent quality in every bottle. Located in the Horse Heaven Hills, our 327-acre estate vineyard is located high on the bluffs overlooking the majestic Columbia River. It is here, high on the dominate ridge, that our grapes thrive in these unique soils. It is here that our winemaker Jarrod nurtures the fruit quality from bud to bottle. Our belief is that quality starts in the vineyard.