



FLANAGAN

2021 SYRAH *Bennett Valley*

APPELLATION	Bennett Valley
HARVEST DATE	September 24th, 2021
pH	3.55
TA	6.25
ABV	13.5%
CASES PRODUCED	306
RELEASE DATE	August 2023



PRODUCTION NOTES

The spring of 2021 was an extremely dry. There was little rain that winter and we moved back into serious drought conditions by spring. Lack of soil moisture led to weaker shoot growth and very poor fruit set. Coastal sites with more fog and general ambient moisture did better. Inland vineyards were the most affected. The vineyard we planted in 2001 in Bennett Valley benefits from a lot of coastal influence but still saw very low yields. Overall the crop in Sonoma County was about 15% below normal. Coming on the heels of the total disaster of 2020 (which had two major fires in the middle of the growing season) this left wineries scrambling to find fruit. The 2021 vintage is excellent but small.

TASTING NOTES

The Syrah from our original vineyard site in Bennett Valley is always excellent and 2021 is no exception. The main block is on a 30 degree slope, on red volcanic soils, with a southwest aspect. In June and July the block gets sun until 9pm. Every afternoon between 3pm and 4pm the wind rolls in from the coast and the temperature drops sharply. Syrah likes low vigor sites, with cooler temperatures, and wind. This site has all of that and always delivers world class Syrah fruit.

The nose displays Violets, Black Cherry, Cedar, and Leather. On the palate there are notes of Red and Black Fruits (Pomegranate, Black Cherry, and ripe Black Plum) with a hint of vanilla.

Bennett Valley is a great area for Rhone varietals and both our Viognier and our Syrah come from top sites in this unique AVA.