



FLANAGAN

2023 SYRAH *Bennett Valley*

APPELLATION	Bennett Valley
HARVEST DATE	10/12, 10/23/2023
pH	3.53
TA	5.81
ABV	14%
CASES PRODUCED	227
RELEASE DATE	August 2025

PRODUCTION NOTES

The 2023 vintage saw the end of the severe drought that started in 2021. Abundant winter rains continued through the spring and into June. The very cold and wet spring meant a late start for bud break, delayed flowering and fruit set, and, ultimately, a late harvest. Our last fruit came in November 1st!

TASTING NOTES

The Syrah from our original vineyard site in Bennett Valley is always excellent and 2023 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 Black Cherry Blossom, White Pepper, and Bay Leaf. On the palate there are notes of ripe Black Plum, Cardamom, and Black Olive Tapenade. The cooler weather in 2023 yielded an elegant, earthy wine that is reminiscent of the greatest wines from the Rhone Valley. It is also a wine that pairs very well with a range of dishes. My favorite is a garlic and rosemary leg of lamb with lots of savory root vegetables!

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



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