

# Rara Avis

2021 | YAKIMA VALLEY



73% Olsen Ranch Grenache  
16% Tudor Vineyard Grenache  
11% Tudor Vineyard Mourvèdre

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

pH: 3.98

Titrateable Acidity: 4.7 g/liter

Volitile Acidity: 0.58 g/liter

Residual Sugar: <0.1 g/liter

Alcohol: 14.6%

Cases Produced: 300



## Harvest and Winemaking

2021 was one of the warmest growing seasons ever. Accumulated heat units were at a near-all-time high. The season was punctuated by a late June heat dome in the Northwest. The high heat in June decrease berry size and increased the concentration of flavors in the grapes. Fall was typical for the Northwest, bright sunshine, warm days, cool nights, with a few rain showers. 2021 is a fabulous vintage.

Olsen Ranch Grenache and Tudor Vineyard Grenache and Mourvèdre were hand-harvested on October 11th. All the grapes were destemmed, and we added 33% of the stems back to the fermentation bins. Stems add additional tannins and create a complex Grenache. The grapes were inoculated with MT48 yeast and punched down twice a day for six days prior to pressing. The wine was aged in used French oak puncheons for 11 months prior to bottling unfiltered and unfiltered.

## Tasting Notes

Limpid, medium red hue. Aromas of crushed volcanic rocks, violets, rainier cherry, cranberry,

wind-blown dust, and confection candy. The mouthfeel is brilliant and fresh. Deep red fruit is laced with dusty earth and rocky notes. The texture is focused, rich, and broad. The acidity balances the fruit and enhances its freshness. The finish is long and desirable. Overall, the Rara Avis is feminine, beautiful, and luscious.

## Thoughts on Grenache

Grenache is the great grape of Spain and Southern France and is the world's most widely planted vine. The vine produces a rich wine with higher alcohol and lower acidity and seems to thrive in the high-elevation regions of Washington. In Southern France, Grenache is blended with Mourvèdre and a myriad of obscure red grapes. In Australia, Grenache is part of the GSM style of wine. I prefer Rara Avis to have a high proportion of Grenache with a dollop of Mourvèdre. Rara Avis leans more in the Pinot Noir style of Grenache.

## Ingredients

*Grenache grapes, Mourvèdre, yeast, tartaric acid, and 35 ppm of Free SO<sub>2</sub> at bottling.*



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