

ABEJA



2017 SYRAH WALLA WALLA VALLEY

93 POINTS – JEB DUNNUCK

Moving to the reds, the 2017 Syrah from Abeja (100% Syrah brought up in neutral oak) sports a deep plum/purple color as well as beautiful notes of chocolate-covered blueberries, lavender, ground pepper, and hints of game. It's medium-bodied, has beautiful fruit, a rounded texture and great tannins. Drink this beauty over the coming decade.

91 POINTS – VINOUS

Bright red-ruby. Reticent aromas of black raspberry, red cherry and flowers, complicated by hints of licorice and cumin. Moderately dense and juicy, showing lovely spicy definition to its red berry, red cherry and floral flavors. This rather polite, smooth Syrah shows little in the way of meaty wildness but is intense, shapely and moderately sweet. It's also easier to enjoy at this stage than the 2016 was a year ago, but will it reveal the same slow-ripening complexity in the long run? The tannins are firm but fine-grained and nicely buffered by the wine's fruit. A bit sweeter and more open-knit than the '16, finishing with very good subtle length. Like the 2016 Heather Hill Cabernet, this wine was made entirely from estate fruit.

90 POINTS – WINE ADVOCATE

The 2017 Syrah displays a dark ruby core with purple edges and is scented of dusty plum, blackberry and subtle baking spices followed by elements of black pepper and wet river rocks. Medium to full-bodied, the wine is spicy with a firm yet balanced structure that is delightful, offering flavors of dusty blackberries, dried herbs and bitter dark chocolate, concluding with a long lingering finish. It's a wine of precision and is food-friendly.