



milbrandt vineyards

2009 Traditions Riesling

Overview

In 1997, we planted our first vines in the Eastern Washington AVAs of Columbia Valley and Wahluke Slope. At first glance, Eastern Washington is not your typical wine country. It's a remote, windswept, high desert dotted with sagebrush and tumbleweeds. But our family had been farming here since the mid-1950s and we believed the region's moderate temperatures, low rainfall and sandy soils were ideal for grapes. To help with the planting and farming, we hired well-respected viticulturist, James McFerran. Eight years later, after selling our fruit to many of Washington's preeminent wineries, we hired veteran winemaker Gordon Hill to produce wines from the best blocks. Today, we farm 13 distinct estate vineyard sites totaling nearly 1800 acres.

Vineyard

One of the more amazing aspects of Eastern Washington is our ability to produce superb wines from a wide assortment of varieties. Our long, arid, temperate growing season seems to ripen (not over- or under-ripen) and emphasize unique flavors and aromatics from warmer-climate reds like Cabernet and Merlot and cooler-climate whites such as Riesling and Chardonnay. In fact, the success we've had with Riesling in particular is one of the great stories to emerge from Eastern Washington's wine industry. Our 2009 Traditions combines Riesling from four of our estate vineyards.

Tasting Notes

Here we have a highly aromatic Riesling with traces of linalool, ripe apricots, Elberta peaches, honey, zest of tangerine, and orange blossoms. The flavors are fresh and fruit-driven combining a subtle sweetness with the crisp impression of acidity. Food wise, think outside the bottle and explore everything from Thai to Chinese to Indian, Middle Eastern and Mexican.

Words from our Winemaker

"As in previous vintages, our 2009 Traditions Riesling offers an exotic mélange of fruit and floral aromas, featuring Elberta peaches, ripe apricots, lychee, spice, sandalwood, honey, tree flowers, and Granny Smith apples. The breadth and balance of this wine make it the perfect choice from Tandoori chicken to ceviche."

-Gordon Hill, winemaker

Wine Statistics

Composition	100% Riesling
Vineyards	33% Evergreen 31% Wahluke Slope 25% Ancient Lakes 11% Pheasant
Alcohol	12.1%
TA	.79
pH	3.02
RS	1.4
Harvest Date	9/30/09
Brix	22.7
Yeast	71B Steinberger
Fermentation	Stainless Steel
Cases	4,704

"Individually, we're just Butch and Jerry. But when we're working together, we're like one really talented person. This wine represents the best of both of us." - *Butch and Jerry Milbrandt*