

TRADITIONS  
2007 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 1600 acres.

**Vineyard**

Most of the grapes for our 2007 Traditions Riesling came from our Evergreen Vineyard. Planted in 1998, this 452-acre property sits on a bluff above the Columbia River. The site features geologically young soils on top of ancient volcanic basalt beds. The top layers of earth were deposited by floods the most recent occurring 10,000 years ago – carried down from the high elevations of Montana, Idaho and Washington. All of the wines from the Evergreen Vineyard possess a distinct minerality.

A small addition of grapes from our Pheasant and Wahluke Slope vineyards adds a note of ripe apricot to the bouquet and palate.

**Wine**

Riesling is on fire. It's one of the fastest growing varieties in the U.S. Those of us who love the grape always knew it would happen; it was just a matter of when. No variety is more versatile or enjoyable than Riesling. It goes with seafood, chicken, turkey and pork and a wide swath of cuisines from Cajun to Asian and Hispanic to German. It is also unsurpassed as an aperitif.

Our 2007 Traditions Riesling shows why Eastern Washington is becoming a hub for Riesling. It is ripe, fresh and highly aromatic. The nose combines peaches and apricots. The flavors are rich, lush and juicy. The finish is off dry and balanced.

Composition	White Riesling (99.3%), Muscat Canelli (0.7%)
Apellation	Columbia Valley
Vineyards	Evergreen (75%), Pheasant (18%), Wahluke Slope (7%)
Alcohol	12.5%
RS	1.5%
TA	0.77
pH	3.05
Cases	8,024

“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