

90 POINTS  
*Wine & Spirits*

# NORTH BY NORTHWEST

## 2015 SYRAH WALLA WALLA VALLEY

North by Northwest was founded in 2005 by the King family with the vision to handcraft varietally pure wines from the finest vineyards in Walla Walla Valley and Columbia Valley AVAs, which straddle the border of Washington and Oregon. We partner with like-minded vineyard owners, with an eye on sustainable viticultural practices. Our guiding principle is simple: produce a quality wine, for wine lovers.

### TASTING NOTES

In the glass the wine is a dark violet color. Dark fruit on the nose is of plum and blueberry with violets, peppercorns, nutmeg, toast and coffee. Cherry and cocoa nibs chime in on the palate. Round and ripe, the wine boasts lush, supple tannins. All components create great overall structure and balance with a lingering, generous finish.

### WINEMAKING PROCESS

The fruit was cold soaked, punched down and pumped over throughout fermentation. Delestage, a process to oxygenate or aerate the wine and soften the tannins, was performed midway through fermentation. Aged 21 months in French oak, 23% new.

### VINTAGE NOTES

The growing season had an early warm and dry start and stayed particularly warm throughout the summer. Due to an early spring and hot summer, harvest was about two weeks early. Temperatures finally cooled down shortly before harvest and the weather remained mild and dry throughout, without a single challenging weather event. This particular weather pattern was ideal to reach a perfect physiological ripeness by harvest, with all the necessary hang time to ripen the flavors and polish the tannins.

**Varietal:** Syrah

**Vineyards:** Seven Hills (50%); Los Oidos (50%)

**AVA:** Walla Walla Valley

**Alcohol:** 14.5%

