



Va Piano Vineyards

A fourth-generation Walla Wallan, Justin Wylie's wines always display a refreshing honesty—a true sense of place.

Statistics

COUNTRY

United States

APPELLATION

Walla Walla, WA

FOUNDED

2003

ESTATE OWNER

Justin Wylie

WINEMAKER

Justin Wylie

CASE PRODUCTION

7,500

FARMING PRACTICES

Sustainably Farmed

Winery Profile

Inspired by Washington State's budding wine industry, Walla Walla native Justin Wylie started small—making wine in his garage, while soaking up knowledge from local vintners, growers, and collectors. Eventually, he turned his hobby into a passion, and with the help and encouragement from friends and family, Wylie founded Va Piano in 2003 with his first commercial crush.

The winery boasts a 20-acre estate vineyard located in the Southeast corner of the Walla Walla Valley AVA, additionally, Wylie sources fruit from some of the most prestigious vineyards in the state including Les Collines, DuBrul, French Creek, Rosebud, and Stoney Vine, located in Milton-Freewater's The Rocks District, Walla Walla's most recent sub-appellation.

As a vintner, Wylie intends to showcase and capture the unique terroir of each of these remarkable sites. His Black Label collection features single vineyard-designate varietals, while his equally delicious Yellow Label wines are region specific.

The winery is focused on showcasing terroir, which shines through in Wylie's single-vineyard Black Label Cabernet and Chardonnay bottlings. The 2015 Rosebud Vineyard Cabernet scored an outstanding 96-points from Wine Enthusiast, "A deep and dark red with a beautiful depth of dark-berry and dark-chocolate character. Some stones, too. Full-bodied and layered, showing polished tannins and a very pretty finish. It's focused and energetic," and 95-points on his 2015 Walla Walla Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, "This is really dialed-in with blackberry, blueberry, and black-licorice character plus terracotta undertones—and so finely textured, boasting long and complete tannins. It really lasts at the end."

Varieties

Cabernet Sauvignon

Syrah

Chardonnay

Website

www.vapianovineyards.com

"Chi va piano, va sano e va lontano." He who goes slowly, goes safely and goes far.

— Va Piano's motto



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Critical Acclaim

2014 Walla Walla Valley Syrah

90-92 Points

Jeb Dunnuck

Wine Enthusiast

The least expensive Syrah is the 2014 Walla Walla Valley Syrah, which is 100% of the variety, aging in 25% new French oak. This medium to full-bodied Syrah has terrific ripeness and purity to go with that classic black and blue fruit character that's common from this state. Charcoal, leafy herbs and pepper are also all present, and this has a more charming, forward style that will be ideal for drinking while you wait for the Black Label releases to get some bottle age.

2015 Walla Walla Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

95 Points

Paul Gregutt

Wine Enthusiast

This is really dialed-in with blackberry, blueberry, and black-licorice character plus terracotta undertones. Full-bodied, layered and so finely textured, boasting long and complete tannins. It really lasts at the end. Drink in 2022.

2015 “Black Label” Rosebud Cabernet Sauvignon

96 Points

Paul Gregutt

Wine Enthusiast

A deep and dark red with a beautiful depth of dark-berry and dark-chocolate character. Some stones, too. Full-bodied and layered, showing polished tannins and a very pretty finish. It's focused and energetic. Drink or hold.

91+ Points

Stephen Tanzer

Vinous Media

Another black-label bottling; 50% new oak; from Rosebud Vineyard on the Wahluke slope; this fruit was harvested on October 12): Bright, full ruby. Sexy, rather old-school aromas of redcurrant, plum, earth, brown spices, mocha, coffee and menthol, plus a darker note of boysenberry. Concentrated, dense flavors of currant and dark raspberry show more sweetness and baby fat than the Red Mountain Cabernet, with less of the greenness of that wine (and much more supporting density of material). Seriously rich, tactile and deep, with a youthfully medicinal cast to its cassis, black cherry, licorice and herb flavors. Finishes smooth and long, with ripe, firm, integrated tannins, a hint of dark chocolate and excellent energy. This is built for a leisurely evolution in bottle.

2016 “Black Label” French Creek Vineyard Chardonnay

Winery Tasting Notes

The 2016 French Creek Chardonnay is a blend of 64% Mt Eden clone and 36% Wente clone. Barrel fermented and aged in 50% neutral French oak, 40% stainless steel barrels and 10% new French oak from Tonnellerie Tremeaux. The 2016 Chardonnay is perfectly balanced with hints of fresh citrus and melon, and slight tropical notes. Racy acidity and medium body texture fill the palate. Drink now through 2025.



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