

# BETZ

FAMILY WINERY



*The Independent Consumer's Guide to Fine Wines*

### **2012 Cuvée Frangin, Washington Blend 91 Points**

The 2012 Cuvee Frangin is a new cuvee that's playing in the value-end of the spectrum, and it does a damn good job of it. offers knockout aromas and flavors of plum, tobacco leaf, dried herbs, and spice to go with a medium to full- bodied, supple and downright sexy profile on the palate. Up-front and ready to go, it will nevertheless have close to a decade of longevity and is a perfect intro into the style of this estate. It also represents a superb value.

### **2012 La Côte Rousse, Syrah 95 Points**

Possessing full-bodied richness, beautiful concentration, high, yet sweet tannin, and a terrific finish, this awesome Syrah will be at its best from 2017-2027. While these wines always have considerable structure and focused profiles, these 2012s have an extra dimension of depth and texture, and should not be missed!

### **2012 La Côte Patriarche, Syrah 96 Points**

Produced from the Red Willow Vineyard and mostly from the oldest Syrah vines planted in Washington. Inky purple in color, with mineral-laced blackberry, cassis, crushed flowers, smoked earth and licorice, this beauty hits the palate with full-bodied richness and depth, a seamless texture and overriding sense of elegance that carries through the finish.

### **2012 La Serenne, Syrah 96 Points**

It boasts an incredibly inky purple color to go with notions of crème de cassis, damp earth, graphite, smoke, and licorice that flow to a full bodied, voluptuously textured profile on the palate. Despite all the richness, it stays thrillingly focused and shows the purity and elegance of the site.

### **2012 Bésoleil, Grenache 94 Points**

Gorgeous on all accounts, it has fantastic density and depth, with medium to full-bodied richness, beautiful freshness and classic Grenache-driven aromas and flavors of Provence and flowers. Already hard to resist, it should evolve gracefully for over a decade.

### **2012 Père de Famille, Cabernet Sauvignon 95+ Points**

Père de Famille is an inky colored, classic Betz Family wine that's loaded with perfectly ripe black fruits, lead pencil shavings, scorched earth and the searing minerality and dusty earth quality that comes only from Red Mountain. Full-bodied, structured and layered, with rockin' purity and focus, give it 7-8 years of bottle age and drink it over the following two decades.





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**2012 Clos de Betz, Bordeaux Blend 95 Points**

*It offers impressive cassis, plum liqueur, spring flowers and underbrush-style aromas and flavors to go with a mouth-filling, layered and voluptuous style on the palate. I love the mid-palate here, and the tannin builds through the finish, so, while it should have plenty of up-front appeal, it should also evolve for 15+ years.*

**2012 Le Parrain, Cabernet Sauvignon 99 Points**

A wine that flirts with perfection, it offers an extraordinary bouquet of cassis, lead pencil shavings, liquid violets and crushed rock. This gives way to a full-bodied, layered, elegant, yet massively concentrated wine that never puts of foot wrong, is always perfectly balanced and has incredible purity of fruit. Tasting like a first growth Bordeaux from a great vintage, it will need a decade of cellaring and keep for a quarter of a century. Hats off to the team here for this stunner!



**2012 Père de Famille, Cabernet Sauvignon 94 Points**

Ineffable wild aromas of blackberry, espresso, licorice, pepper, mint tea and cinnamon, complicated by a whiff of game. Boasts an utterly aristocratic texture and great lift but shows little obvious sweetness in the early going. Great incipient complexity to the suave, fine-grained flavors of red fruits, spices, flowers and minerals. This seriously structured cabernet displays a slow-building, inexorable finish, with tannins buried in flavor.

**2012 Clos de Betz, Bordeaux Blend 93+ Points**

Dark red-ruby. Aromas of blackcurrant, cocoa powder, bitter chocolate, licorice and burnished oak, lifted by a violet top note. Densely packed but light on its feet, with perfectly integrated acidity energizing the fine-grained flavors of black raspberry, black cherry, cocoa powder and violet. Boasts a rare combination of bullet-proof, youthfully impenetrable tight grain and outstanding floral, white-peppery lift. Superb noble tannins dust the front teeth on the very young, long, juicy finish.

**2012 La Côte Rousse, Syrah 93+ Points**

Subtle, slightly candied red berry and floral aromas convey a distinctly savory quality plus a suggestion of nutty oak. Then distinctly soil-driven in the mouth with red raspberry and spice flavors joined by a saline quality and a strong impression of granitic minerality. And yet, this wine boasts excellent energy, the tannins are serious, but broad and ripe and the finish is sweet and long.





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**2012 La Côte Patriarche, Syrah 92 Points**

Bright, deep medium ruby. Musky, feral aromas of blackberry, violet, licorice pastille, wild herbs, and fruity black peppercorn. Tight, high-pitched and penetrating, even un-giving today, with powerful blueberry and blackberry flavors accented by black pepper.

**2012 La Serenne, Syrah 93 Points**

Wonderfully floral aromas of cassis, dark chocolate, game, violet, and lavender. Juicy, savory and sharply delineated, delivering terrific energy to its inviting black fruit and violet flavors. This wine too, shows lovely ripe acidity for the vintage-no surprise as this is a cool site. Finishes classically dry, lightly saline and very long.

**2012 Bésoleil, Grenache 92+ Points**

Musky, brooding nose offers deep black fruit and pomegranate aromas complicated by smoke and game elements that carry through onto the palate. Boasts urgent dark fruit intensity with outstanding retention of acidity for this ripe year. This serious, densely packed wine shows a strong old-viney Grenache sweetness. Very sexy wine with a long aftertaste.



**2012 Clos de Betz, Bordeaux Blend: 94 Points & Editors Choice**

Tasting Notes will be released in September 2015 issue.

**2012 Père de Famille, Cabernet Sauvignon: 95 Points & Editors Choice**

Tasting Notes will be released in September 2015 issue.



**2012 La Serenne, Syrah 93 Points**

Dense and spicy, the tannins part to make way for a rush of black- berry, blueberry and plum fruit, nicely tweaked with licorice and toast accents.

