



FAMILY WINERY

## 2013 *La Serenne*, Syrah

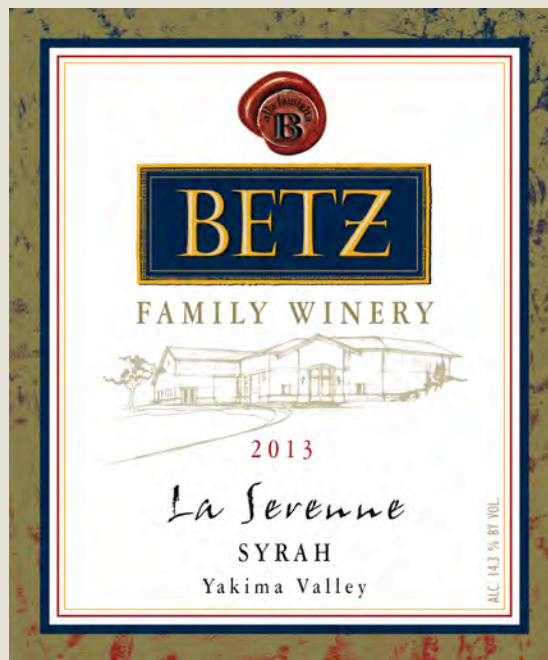
### The 2013 Vintage

After the cooler vintages of 2010 and 2011, Washington is back to the more typical trend of warmth in 2012 and the even warmer 2013. After a relatively mild winter, bud break, flowering and fruit set took place anywhere from one week to four weeks early, and in very good conditions. The result was potentially a large crop, but conscientious growers and winemakers thinned out all but the best clusters.

2013 had a much higher temperature range than the previous three years and demanded attention to the vine and crop health. The heat stayed constant through the summer months, with just a little cooling over a couple days in July.

As September arrived, and we began to harvest grapes, a cooling trend slowed things down in the second week of September. Many wineries stopped picking temporarily, or pushed out their harvest dates. Some winemakers refer to 2013 as the tale of two harvests, referring to the period before and after the cooling trend. In 2013, the combination of above average heat, and cool nighttime temperatures during harvest influenced the character of the finished wines. The result? Rich textures, deeply developed flavors and a harmonious freshness from the natural acidity we value so much.

Lovers of this wine know that its source since 2000 has been the Boushey Vineyard, our "coolest" site for Syrah; 2013 had more heat here as in other vineyards, but it was still the last Syrah fruit that we harvested. With more hang time on the vine, the grapes developed complex game and spice notes of the variety. Our *La Serenne* typically expresses the "wild" side of Syrah, and 2013 was no exception. Wild Blueberry, Damson plums, and lilacs lead the aromatic complexity, followed up by a plush, silky palate.



Deep red black with a vibrant edge, *La Serenne* has plenty of tannin and density, but its cool site plushness is irresistible. *La Serenne* has always been a single vineyard, single clone Syrah, emerging from our long partnership with Dick Boushey. Its purity and sense of place define this wine. While its common for *La Serenne* to be closed down aromatically and brooding at this age, in 2013 the wine already shows more generous flavors and refined texture. Of our 3 single site Syrahs, look for Boushey to offer the most pleasure early on.

### CURRENT RATINGS:

#### Robert Parkers Wine Advocate: 94 POINTS

*"Intense, yet fresh and lively notes of violets, spring flowers, cracked pepper, iron and sweet black and blue fruits. Full-bodied, pretty, lively and nicely focused, give it a year or two and enjoy bottles through 2028."- Jeb Dunnuck*

