

FLINT WINES

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GRAMERCY CELLARS

One of our clients recently noted "I used to know where I stood with wine. I had my five Bordeaux Châteaux that I bought every year and that was it. Then you introduced me to Burgundy and now I have found myself buying American wine, where is this going to end? God I love it". In the spirit of introducing new regions we are proud to present the Washington State wines of Gramercy Vineyards.

The wines of Washington State don't help the uninitiated as there is no dominant grape variety to provide the area with an identity. Below you will see Syrah, Grenche, Cabernet Sauvignon and Tempranillo, whilst Riesling and Semillon are also widely planted. The key element to consider with Washington State wines is the ripeness of fruit combined with relatively high levels of acidity. Washington State is considerably further north than Napa (on the same latitude as Burgundy) and as a result benefits from an extra two hours of daily sunlight. This aligned to the cool nocturnal temperatures helps to create this balance of ripeness and fresh acidity.

Gramercy Cellars embody many of the traits common amongst the wines of Flint Wines. Small production (2000 cases in total), the limited use of new oak, minimalist winemaking, balance and a sense of terroir are what winemaker and Master Sommelier Greg Harrington is aiming at, so in the words of Robert Parker "My advice: get on Gramercy's mailing list while you still can."

The Washington Wine report is similarly unambiguous in its praise:

"This was not a passing bandwagon but rather a rocket ship on the launch pad and I can report that Gramercy Cellars has now achieved lift off. In five short years, Gramercy Cellars has established itself as one of the top wineries in Washington State. What distinguishes this winery from others? Like many, they are making exceptional wines. However, these wines are unique from their peers stylistically and structurally with higher acid, lower alcohol, and less oak influence. Sum all of this together and you have a winery well separated from its peers. However, when you add the compelling expression of the ever elusive, much discussed and debated terroir, Gramercy has left the earth's gravitational pull and is on its own unique trajectory to success." – Washington Wine Report February 2010

2007 Tempranillo – Inigo Montoya, Walla Walla

£145ib/6

£150/3 magnums

"The 2007 Tempranillo Inigo Montoya was raised in second use oak. It is deep crimson-colored with a super-expressive perfume of smoke, earth notes, black cherry, and blackberry. Medium-bodied and elegant on the palate, it has superb depth, lots of spice, succulent flavors, and exceptional length. It will drink well for a decade." 93 points Robert Parker

2007 Grenache – Columbia Valley

£145ib/6

£150/3 magnums

"Rating: (Exceptional) An intensely aromatic wine with pepper and strong black licorice aromas. Wow! A powerhouse on the taste with richly textured fruit and light herbal streaks. A healthy dose of acidity tops it off. 80% Grenache, 20% Syrah. 13.9% alcohol. 189 cases produced." Washington Wines Report

2007 Cabernet Sauvignon – Columbia Valley

£145ib/6

£150/3 magnums

"Rating: (Excellent) Redolent with black licorice, ground spices, tobacco, and pepper. Surprisingly lithe on the palate. Exceptionally well balanced with focused fruit, spices, and light oak influences along with a touch of chocolate and herbal flavors. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Pepper Bridge and Phinny Hill vineyards. 13.9% alcohol. 375 cases produced." Washington Wine Report

2007 Syrah – Lagniappe, Columbia Valley

£145ib/6

£150/3 magnums

"The purple-colored 2007 Syrah Lagniappe contains 5% Viognier with the fruit sourced from Forgotten Hills and Minick Vineyards. Very expressive from the aromatic lift provided by the Viognier, it is a bit more elegant and forward than the Walla Walla cuvee. This spicy, savory, intense effort can be enjoyed now but will drink well for a decade." 92 points Robert Parker

2007 Syrah – Walla Walla

£145ib/6

£150/3 magnums

"The Syrahs begin with the 2007 Syrah Walla Walla Valley sourced from La Colline and Forgotten Hills Vineyards. Purple-colored, it displays a super-spicy nose of garrigue, olives, bacon, smoked meat, and blueberry. Dense, layered, and concentrated, it skillfully combines elegance with power. Silky on the palate, the succulent flavors last for nearly one minute. It has the structure to evolve for several years but will be hard to resist now." 94 points Robert Parker

2007 Syrah – John Lewis

£195ib/3

"The 2007 John Lewis Syrah was made with no destemming and was a barrel selection (all 500-liter casks) of the best Syrah in the cellar. It was aged in 25% new French oak for 18 months. It offers an ethereal bouquet of slate/mineral, garrigue, olives, smoked meat, sausage, and blueberry. Medium to full-bodied, on the palate, it displays exceptional density, richness, and incipient complexity. Loaded with fruit and impeccably balanced, it will evolve for a decade. How long will it last? Who can say, but I'd like to be around to find out." 96 points Robert Parker. 90 cases produced

"Made by an experienced ex sommelier who moved to Washington after an illustrious career. Not as deep a crimson as the other Washington Syrahs tasted alongside. Appealing, well-balanced nose. Lively, racy fruit with some real refreshment value, not so unlike a really ripe Côte Rotie! Real lift on the finish of this wine. 13.9% (17 pts) Drink 2009-13" Jancis Robinson

Terms and Conditions

1. All wines are quoted per case under bond. Duty and VAT will be payable following shipment.
2. Payment is due on receipt of invoice.
3. The wines will be shipped in the autumn.
5. The offer runs until August 1st 2010. E&OE June 1st 2010.