



2012 B. LEIGHTON PETIT VERDOT

The unsung hero of varietals, this Petit Verdot is decadent, dense and focused. In an effort to make this grape understood and appreciated, it presents itself with grace and confidence; aromatics of violets, cassis and black plums incorporate with the essence of crushed rock and licorice. The finish lingers forever, echoing consistently, but adding notes of mint, grilled meats and exotic spices.

BLEND

100% Petit Verdot

APPELLATION

Yakima Valley

WINEMAKING

Yield: 2.5 tons per acre

Sorting: 1 time

Yeasts: Native

Treatment: Punch downs

Malolactic Fermentation: Native

Primary fermentation: whole berry, 33 days on skins

Ageing: 50% new French oak for 22 months

Fining/Filtering: none

WINE ANALYSIS

.67 grams/100ml Total Acidity

3.84 pH

14.5% Alcohol

TOTAL PRODUCTION

120 cases

ABOUT

Washington winemaker, Brennon Leighton, created B. Leighton Wines to showcase fruit from the crest of Olsen Hills in the Yakima Valley. The first vintage, 2012, is a collection of a Petit Verdot, Grenache and Syrah - all wines that Brennon has always wanted to work with in Washington State. Along with vineyard owner Leif Olsen, Brennon planted the vineyard that is proportionate to the future field blends that will be created in 2015. This is a continuation of what Brennon was doing before and what he does best: feral fermentations with longer maceration and reductive winemaking that captures the varietal and the place it is from.

ACCOLADES

93-95 points, *Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate*

"Currently aging in 50% new French oak, the 2012 Petit Verdot Olsen Vineyard knocks it out of the park with its incredible cassis, plum, licorice, crushed rock and violet/spring flower-like aromas and flavors. Coming from vines lying at an elevation of 1,100 feet and fractured basalt and sandy loam soils, this full-bodied, decadent, full-flavored, yet elegant beauty will be relatively approachable on release, yet evolve gracefully for 15-20 years. It is spectacular." (Jeb Dunnuck)

93+ points, *Stephen Tanzer*

"I certainly can't recall a better varietally labeled petit verdot from Washington, or California either, for that matter." (Stephen Tanzer)

VINEYARD

Olsen Brothers: Olsen Brothers is located on the Northwest bend of the Yakima River as it turns North at Red Mountain. The elevation averages about 1000 feet and the soils are sandy with broken basalt.

