

February 17, 2024

Long Shadows Vintners

2020 Chester-Kidder Proprietary Red

Columbia Valley, WA

93 points

Very perfumed with aromas ranging from lavender, graphite and sandalwood to purple plum, blueberry and black pepper. Firm and compact on the palate, with a full body and dense, chewy tannins. Toasty but not opulent. Needs a couple of years to soften. 57% cabernet sauvignon, 33% syrah and 10% petit verdot.

2021 Sequel Syrah

Columbia Valley, WA

93 points

Polished syrah with notes of cracked pepper, olive tapenade, black plum, mocha and sage. Inky, dark and firm on the full-bodied palate, with a solid, chewy tannin frame. A little restrained and brooding for now. About 30% whole cluster fermented.

2021 Pedestal Merlot

Columbia Valley, WA

92 points

This is a fragrant red showing notes of ripe plums, orange slices, mint chocolate and cedar. It's full-bodied and creamy yet firm, with a sturdy tannin frame. Fresh, minty finish. 80% merlot, 11% cabernet sauvignon and 9% petit verdot.

2021 Saggi Proprietary Red

Columbia Valley, WA

94 points

This super-Tuscan style wine began at Long Shadows in partnership with the Folonari family of Italy. It is a seamless, harmonious blend of 65% sangiovese, 24% cabernet sauvignon and 11% syrah. Black cherries, blueberries, suave oak spices and a hint of pepper.

2021 Pirouette Proprietary Red

Columbia Valley, WA

93 points

A layered and full-bodied, Bordeaux-style blend of 55% cabernet sauvignon, 36% merlot, 7% petit verdot and 2% malbec. Bold, ripe black plums and black cherries are soothed by dark-chocolate, cinnamon and vanilla nuances. Very full but balanced, leading to a lingering finish.

2021 Feather Cabernet Sauvignon

Columbia Valley, WA

94 points

This 100% cabernet sauvignon began as a partnership with winemaker Randy Dunn of Napa Valley. It opens with a heady, minty aroma and dense blackcurrant flavors shaded by char, graphite and black figs wrapped in plenty of fine-grained tannins. Time will be the friend of this muscular wine.

2022 Poet's Leap Riesling

Columbia Valley, WA

92 points

Semi-sweet with 10 grams per liter sugar, this peachy, floral and delicate wine also offers a whiff of smoky petrol that's a signature of German riesling. Light-bodied and refreshing, backed by good, tangy acidity.

2022 Cymbal Sauvignon Blanc

Columbia Valley, WA

92 points

This blend of blocks from multiple noted vineyards was fermented in a mix of barrels, concrete tanks and stainless steel, including about 25% new French oak. An enticing aroma of citrus, herbs and spices draws you in, then tangy lemongrass, green-apple and grapefruit flavors emerge.

2021 Dance Chardonnay**Columbia Valley, WA****90 points**

A creamy chardonnay with inviting aromas of lemon pie, peach, vanilla cream, apricot and honeysuckle. It's full-bodied, peachy and textured, with refreshing acidity to balance.

2023 Julia's Dazzle Rosé**Columbia Valley, WA****90 points**

Lovely pale salmon color with fragrant, almost estery notes of peach, apple, flowers and pink grapefruit. It's crisp and refreshing with medium body and a fruity finish. Pinot gris.

2020 Shoup Red Wine**Columbia Valley, WA****93 points**

A full-bodied red with lots of ripe, rich black fruit. Dark chocolate, clove and coffee bean, too. It's firm and tannic on the palate, with muscular tannins spreading across and enveloping the fruit. 74% cabernet sauvignon and 26% merlot.

2020 Pedestal Vintage Select Red Wine**Columbia Valley, WA****92 points**

I like the chopped-herb aromatics here, mingling with plum and blackcurrant fruit. Then tobacco and mocha come into play. It's medium- to full-bodied, firm and structured, with a broad tannin frame. 50% cabernet sauvignon and 50% merlot.

2020 Pirouette VS Solo Dancer Red Wine**Columbia Valley, WA****94 points**

A tiny quantity of barrels from 2020 were selected to show the vintage character in its best light. 70% cabernet sauvignon, 23% merlot and 7% cabernet franc. Shows gorgeous, warm oak spices over sumptuous dark fruit and great concentration.

2020 Sequel Vintage Select Bin 898 Syrah**Columbia Valley, WA****94 points**

An inky, dark syrah with notes of black peppercorns, charcuterie, tobacco, blackberry fruit, tar and bitter chocolate. Full-bodied, so deep and dark-fruited, it's like staring into the depths of a deep well. Firm but well-polished tannins.

2020 Cote Nicault, Red Mountain, GSM**Columbia Valley, WA****93 points**

This handsome Rhone-style blend is a project of Long Shadows winemaker Gilles Nicault that blends 34% grenache, 34% mourvedre and 32% syrah after aging each in different sizes and materials of wood and terra cotta vessels for combining just before bottling. The wine is big and broad, moderately tannic and deep in red and black fruits, earthy spices and chocolate.