



2005 Sequel Syrah
Columbia Valley
John Duval, Winemaker

John Duval is the winemaker who for fifteen years presented Australia with its most celebrated wine, Penfold's Grange.

Tasting Notes: This is a deep, dark Syrah loaded with aromatic dark chocolate and black cherries. Lush and concentrated with a perfect balance of richness and acidity that brings the wine to life.

Vintage: The 2005 growing season distinguished itself as an exceptional vintage. Summer daytime temperatures were consistently very warm, then as if on command the heat backed off just enough in September to slow ripening and give the grapes extra time on the vine to reach full physiological maturity. The results are beautifully harmonious wines with wonderful complexity.

Winemaking: Carefully selected, hand-harvested grapes were fermented in 2 – 4 ton tanks. Like the 2004 vintage, wine was predominately aged in small French oak barrels, a regime similar to the one John developed for Penfolds RWT to yield a modern, lush style of Shiraz. The 2005 Sequel aged 16 months in 95% French oak; 5% in 300L American oak barrels.

Vineyards: Taking advantage of the Columbia Valley's diverse growing region, John worked with a variety of top Washington State Syrah vineyards to build a layered, complex wine. The Horse Heaven Hills' Alder Ridge and Wallula Vineyards (40%) and Red Mountain and the surrounding area vineyards (24%) give the wine concentration, richness, dark fruit colors and flavors. Yakima Valley vineyards (15%), including grapes from the well-known Boushey Vineyard, bring balance to the wine and a small amount of Cabernet Sauvignon from Sagemoor's Dionysus Vineyard in Pasco enhances the wine's structure and adds dimension.

Alcohol: 14.7%

pH: 3.73

TA: 0.63grams / 100ml

Blend: 96% Syrah; 4% Cabernet Sauvignon

Release date: October 2007

Production: 1,489 cases