



THE ROCKS DISTRICT OF MILTON-FREEWATER

Firmly Planted in The Rocks

The soils of the Funk Estate Vineyard consist of very deep, excessively drained soils formed in basaltic alluvium mixed with loess at the surface. These soils contain a large fraction of basalt cobbles and unique geochemical signature (particularly higher levels of Iron), resulting in wines which are savory, with notes of roasted meat, olive tapenade, flowers and mineral. Syrah is the super star of the vineyard, displaying a bold, earthy character some people refer to as "The Rocks funk."



Funk Estate Vineyard

Anita and Richard Funk planted the Funk Estate Vineyard in 2007 with five acres of Syrah. In spring of 2017, an additional five acres was planted with Cabernet Sauvignon.

The site is located near the apex of the alluvial fan and sits an elevation of 965 feet, it is considered the warmer area of The Rocks district. An adjacent vineyard, which was planted 20 years ago has never frozen back to the ground, which is saying something for the Walla Walla Valley.

The vines are trellised and trained using a quadrilateral system. Three benefits of this system include easily controlled light exposure and air flow, reduced labor for canopy management, and most importantly, lighter cluster weights and smaller grape berries. This system has resulted in high quality wines that consistently showcase the distinctive, seductive aromas, flavors, and textures of Funk Estate Vineyard terroir.

Stones Speak Estate Vineyard

Anita and Richard Funk planted this vineyard in 2016, a high-density vineyard with 1815 vines per acre. Located at the corner of Sunnyside and Winesap roads, the elevation is 875 feet, noticeably cooler than the Funk Estate vineyard less than a mile away.

This site is planted with five acres of Syrah, two acres of Tempranillo and one acre of Viognier. The vines are trained and trellised using a unilateral cordon system. The thought behind this training system takes into consideration the cooler site being more susceptible to winter damage and the fact that Tempranillo and Viognier are more sensitive to extreme cold temperatures. Replacement canes of the vine are buried every fall protecting the next years fruiting buds. This system makes burying canes much easier, and the buried canes offer insurance if cold damage does occur.

Wines Produced from The Rocks District

The Funk Estate Syrah
The Stones Speak Estate Syrah
Tempranillo
Reserve Syrah

The Funk Estate Cabernet Sauvignon
Hunt & Gather Red Wine
The Stone Speak Tempranillo
Waterstone Syrah