



2017
'BOUQUET GARNI'
 BENNETT VALLEY SYRAH

This wine is made from an exceptional hillside vineyard located in Bennett Valley, where natural conditions are perfect for growing Syrah in the Goulding cobbly clay loam soil. As a result of the co-fermentation of three field selections, this wine reveals a complex and spicy bouquet. Handcrafted using classical winemaking techniques of Vallée du Rhône, this unique wine is named after the famous culinary bundle to honor our first relative who emigrated from France to the USA, Abel Pierre Aimé Coutanceau, who was a professional chef. It is the 'Garnished Bouquet' or 'Bouquet Garni.'



<i>Proprietary name</i>	'Bouquet Garni'
<i>Name meaning</i>	Garnished bouquet Spicy aromas of the Syrah
<i>Varietal composition</i>	Syrah
<i>Type of wine</i>	Vineyard designated
<i>Appellation</i>	Bennett Valley
<i>Vineyard singularity</i>	Warm hillside located in the cooler valley 500-600 feet elevation Single cluster per shoot 'de rigueur' Three field selections Volcanic mélange soil of clay and fragmented rocks
<i>Typical harvest date</i>	End of October
<i>Picking</i>	Night pick; manual; small lugs; refrigerated truck
<i>Sorting</i>	Cluster-by-cluster & berry-per-berry by hand; Le Trieur™
<i>Fermentation</i>	Through native yeast; Punch downs in stainless steel tanks & French oak puncheons; Gyrobox™
<i>Upbringing</i>	14 months in French oak barrels from selected artisan coopers
<i>Bottling</i>	Unfined, unfiltered
<i>Ideal cellaring</i>	4 to 6 years after harvest date
<i>Arc of aging</i>	20 to 25 years
<i>Serving</i>	59-61°F (15-16°C); Decant one hour prior to serving

TASTING NOTES

"The 2017 'Bouquet Garni' has an attractive bouquet of blue and red fruits, violets, lavender, and gamey, pan dripping-like characteristics. (I actually wrote mint covered lamb in my notes.) These carry to a medium to full-bodied, seamless Syrah that has beautiful fruit and considerable elegance, yet still with plenty of classic cool climate Syrah wildness. It's going to be a beautiful wine that will drink nicely in its youth yet also evolve for 10-12 years or more."

94-96 points

Jeb Dunnuck

JebDunnuck.com, June 2019

"Deep purple-black in color, the 2017 'Bouquet Garni' springs from the glass with savory/earthy elements of dried herbs, black olives, charcoal, and beef drippings over a core of fresh blackberries and warm plums plus a waft of cigar box. Medium to full-bodied, the palate has a compelling chewiness to the texture, matching all those savory layers, finishing long and pepper-laced."

95+ points

Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW

Robert Parker Wine Advocate, Dec. 2019 