

[My WineAccess](#) > [IWC](#) > Syzygy



Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

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- [Market Monitor](#)
- [Focus on Argentina](#)
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- [Austria 2004: A Viticulturist's Year](#)
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- [Wine Glossary](#)
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[Cellar Management Software](#)

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[Discussion Forums](#)

[Back Issues](#)

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Syzygy

By [Stephen Tanzer](#)

[2003 Syzygy Red Wine Columbia Valley](#)

88(+?)

(\$20; a blend of 50% merlot, 25% cabernet sauvignon and 25% syrah) Bright ruby-red. Aromas of blueberry, violet, licorice, leather, tar and game. Juicy, bright and tight on entry, then expands nicely on the back half, showing nicely focused flavors of red fruits and flowers. Finishes with sweet tannins and enticing ripe acidity. The pH is reportedly 3.9, as the syrah lots were especially high, but this wine does not lack for freshness.

[2002 Syzygy Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley](#)

87

(\$28) Bright medium ruby. Oaky aromas of currant, chocolate, coffee liqueur, baking spices and rooty earth. Sweet, plush and pliant, with fruit-driven flavors of cassis, currant, blueberry, tar and dark chocolate given shape by ripe acids. Finishes with a fine dusting of tannins and good backbone. Lacks only the complexity for a higher score.

[2003 Syzygy Syrah Walla Walla Valley](#)

87

(\$28) Medium ruby. Raw berries, mocha, espresso and gunflint on the nose. Dense and quite dry, with flavors of crushed berries, flint and pepper. Conveys a high-pH mouth feel and an enticing supple quality. From mostly young vines. Finishes with slightly rustic tannins. This will be a wine to watch as the vines mature.

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