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Robert Parker's Wine Advocate Reviews Walla Walla's K Vintners and Charles Smith Wines and scores 16 wines from 99 to 91 points.

WALLA WALLA, WASH. – July 7, 2008 – Released yesterday, the highly respected wine publication Robert Parker's Wine Advocate bestowed scores ranging from 99 to 91 points for 16 wines, tasted by Wine Advocate critic Jay Miller during his visit to Washington State in late May. Dr. Miller visited the winery, tasting nearly everything from the 2005 vintage, including some current releases alongside owner-winemaker Charles Smith.

High scores from such an influential publication can have a big effect on a winery's reputation and sales. When asked about the impact of such praise on his winemaking, Smith reflected, "It's about the wine and the people that are going to drink it, and that's it!"

Obviously Mr. Miller agrees. "K Vintners is where the larger-than-life Charles Smith presides. He is an innovator, marketing genius, outspoken, you name it – but above all the man is a brilliant winemaker who knows where all the great fruit is hidden. In a region where blending is the rule of thumb, he is the ultimate terroirist. Each wine reflects the vineyard from which it was produced but there is also a house style which lets you know immediately who made the wine. While it's way too soon to put K Vintners on the same level as a Domaine Leroy or Domaine Zind-Humbrecht, the experience you get tasting in the cellar is much the same as in those legendary wineries, brilliantly made wines reflecting the terroir but also a winemaking signature that makes it totally clear which winery made the wine." (From www.erobertparker.com, the Wine Advocate website, July 1, 2008)

Since 3pm yesterday when the scores were released, internet and phone orders have been consuming staff time & energy. These wines are now officially on a supply "count down." Many of the 2005 K wines are no longer available, though some can still be found in retail shops and restaurants across the country. The Charles Smith Wines including the 2005 Heart, Skull and Old Bones plus the 2007 K Viognier and the K Vintners 2006 releases are currently available at the winery or online at www.kvintners.com.

2005	Charles Smith Wines "Old Bones" Syrah	99
2005	Charles Smith Wines "The Skull" Syrah	98
2005	Charles Smith Wines "Heart" Syrah	97
2003	K Vintners "The Pheasant" Syrah	97
2005	K Vintners "The Creator"	96
2005	K Vintners Syrah "The Beautiful"	95
2005	K Vintners Syrah Wells Vineyard	95
2005	K Vintners "El Jefe" en Chamberlin Vineyard	94
2005	K Vintners "Ovide" en Cerise Vineyard	94
2005	K Vintners Syrah "The Deal" Sundance Vineyard	94
2005	K Vintners "Roma" en Chamberlin Vineyard	93
2005	K Vintners "The Boy"	92
2005	K Vintners Syrah "Cougar Hills"	92
2005	K Vintners Syrah "Phil Lane"	92
2005	K Vintners Syrah "Morrison Lane"	91
2007	K Vintners Viognier	91

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Capturing and putting into bottle the pure essence of syrah.

K Vintners opened its doors to the public on December 3, 2001. Owner-winemaker Charles Smith, with his big hair, kick ass attitude and bold packaging has earned the moniker "rock star" of Washington State Syrah.

Charles Smith Wines: the Modernist Project focuses on the way people want to drink wine today. With each wine, the vineyard is the star and the consumer gets exactly what they hope for in a great bottle—wine that tastes smashing and is priced right.