

WINE RECOMMENDATION

**Valley View Winery****2005 Anna Maria Viognier
(Rogue Valley)**

Brothers Mark and Mike Wisnovsky have built the winery started by their father into an important mainstay of Southern Oregon winemaking. In recent years, they and their winemaker Joe Guerrero have produced some of Oregon's best Viognier wines, bolstering the case that this relative newcomer has a shot at becoming one of Southern Oregon's signature white wines.

This 2005 example shows forward aromas of fresh-cut peach and pear blossoms with underlying notes of dried grass and apple skin. There is a delicate sense of substance to the nose, as if demanding attention to parse its elements, and as the wine warms in the glass it seems to take on additional flowery tones. On the palate there is the slightly viscous texture typical of good Viognier, which carries full flavors of peach and apricot. On both the nose and tongue there is an appealing subtle burnt edge reminiscent of toasted marshmallow, but without the sugary sweetness. Good backing acidity lends an uplifting note, and the finish is full of peachy tastes.

Southern Oregon Viognier is made in a variety of styles, and has definite vintage variation. 2005 was a strong vintage with some slightly cooler temperatures, but Valley View sources fruit from top growers and has consistently produced Viogniers that show good acidity and lush flavors, such as this wine.

Reviewed April 26, 2007 by [Cole Danehower](#).

THE WINE

Winery: [Valley View Winery](#)

Vintage: 2005

Wine: Anna Maria Viognier

Appellation: [Rogue Valley](#)

Grape: Viognier

Price: \$17.00

THE REVIEWER**Cole Danehower**

Cole Danehower is the creator of the *Oregon Wine Report*. A frequent judge and a member of *Northwest Palate* magazine's review panel, Cole's palate is particularly attuned to Northwest wines. He believes numerical scoring is inadequate in conveying the character of a wine, preferring to communicate his experience and evaluation of a wine through words. A believer in terroir (especially in Oregon's cooler growing regions) he also pays attention to the impact of winemaking style and vintage variation on a wine. He views balance, flavor purity, and a sense of character as key vinous virtues.