



BARNARD
GRIFFIN



MERLOT

columbia valley | vintage 2023

QUALITY • CONSISTENCY • CHARACTER | 40 YEARS IN WASHINGTON WINE | FAMILY-OWNED AND OPERATED

MERLOT AT BARNARD GRIFFIN —

Merlot in Washington is big, rich wine. Dense, powerful and not to be taken lightly.

VINTAGE 2023 —

2023 was about as seamless and normal as a farmer can expect in a quickly changing global climate. Harvest was barreling down on us mid-August whether we were ready for it, or not. An early but moderate spring, followed by the Columbia Valley's obligatory scorching 2 week stretch had fruit development in prime shape come August. Winemakers love a short sleeve and light denim harvest (at least these ones do) and that's exactly what we got.

We wrapped up on October 21st, well before any threats of winter. We saw reds with high fruit concentration and great color with full tannin development while the whites came in with steady acid and enhanced fruit definition. Fruit character is going to be the name of the game for our 2023 varieties. Expect to see another set of well-balanced, varietally specific wines coming out of our corner of the Columbia Valley.

TECH NOTES —

VINEYARD SELECTION

Black Rock Vineyard | YAKIMA VALLEY

Winebau Vineyard | COLUMBIA VALLEY

BLEND

79% Merlot

16% Syrah

5% Cabernet Sauvignon

WINEMAKING

PH - 3.9

TA - .67

RS - <1G/L

FULL ML

FERMENTATION

Pumpovers two times daily, pressed at 2-6% sugar; peak fermentation temperature 85°F

FINISHING

18 months — 10% new French oak
90% neutral barriques

3000 CASES PRODUCED - ABV 13.8%

TASTING NOTES —

Opens with a beautiful expression of oak spice and fragrant cherry accented by hints of cranberry, vanilla and blackberry.

The tannins are well integrated and the finish is juicy and long.

ROB GRIFFIN
FOUNDING WINEMAKER

MEGAN HUGHES
2ND GENERATION
WINEMAKER



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