

BARNARD GRIFFIN

2014 MERLOT - COLUMBIA VALLEY

Harvested: first Merlot lot harvested on 9/14/14

Date of first Bottling: May, 2016

Quantity bottled: 1988 cases

Vineyard Locations and AVA's : Caroway Vineyard (Columbia Valley), Arete Vineyard (Columbia Valley), Black Rock Vineyard (Yakima Valley), Lonesome Spring Ranch (Yakima Valley)

Vintage Notes: The 2014 growing season was punctuated by extreme heat in mid-summer and a marvelous sunny September. Our region was warm from start to finish and had little rainfall to deter us. The consistency of the season allowed us to capture as many heat units as we could manage. Harvest happened upon us early- we brought in Sagemoor Block 6 Sauvignon Blanc on August 24th (a record!), weeks before we've started in years past. It was a slow start- a few whites trickling in over the next weeks until we hit our stride with Chardonnay in mid-September. Merlot and Syrah came in shortly after that and we wrapped in late October with the Cabernet Sauvignons. Expect 2014 wines to have solid acidity, big flavor and ripe richness.

Varietal Composition: 89.4% Merlot and 10.6% Cab Sauvignon

Winemaking: Pump overs 2-3 times daily; pressed at 2-6% sugar; peak fermentation temperature 85 degrees; aged 17 months in old and new European oak barrels.

Malolactic status: 100% malolactic positive

wine pH: 3.7

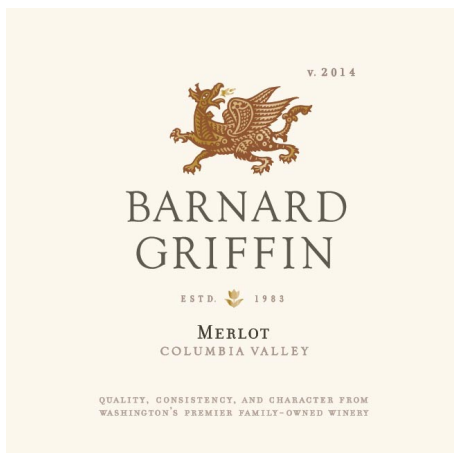
Total acidity: .74

Residual Sugar: Trace (dry)

Alcohol: 13.7%

Winemaker's Comments: "Merlot in Washington is big, rich wine. Dense, powerful and not to be taken lightly, this 2014 is once again a Cabernet lover's Merlot. Subtle notes of orange and bittersweet chocolate dance around a core of dusty cherry and briar fruit flavors. Shows wonderful balance and finesse. Velvety tannins round out the long finish. Would open up nicely over a long meal of prime rib or roast pork."


Rob Griffin, Proprietor-Winemaker



Founded in 1983 by Rob Griffin and Deborah Barnard, Barnard Griffin has been producing Award Winning wines for over 33 years. Barnard Griffin Winery is situated in south-central Washington at the confluence of the Yakima, Columbia, and Snake rivers, in the heart of Washington State's wine country. Stop by the winery and visit our Tasting Room as well as our Wine Bar and Eatery in Richland, Washington to sample our award winning wines today.