

BARNARD GRIFFIN

ESTD.  1983

2016 Orange Muscat- COLUMBIA VALLEY

Harvested: 9/6/16

Date of first Bottling: December, 2016 | **Quantity bottled:** 331 cases

Vineyard Locations and AVA's : Crawford Vineyard (Yakima Valley) Lonesome Spring Ranch (Yakima Valley)

Vintage Notes: Coming off 2015, our hottest (and earliest) harvest on record, we were prepared for another year of record-breaking temps, off-the-chart acids, and fruit arriving on our crush pad well before Labor Day. A record early bud break was followed by a warmish spring which caused early leaf and shoot development. May and June only reassured this line of thinking. It was hot. The grapes were ripening at a worrisome rate- the alcohol was going to be high and we were concerned about getting the acidity we're so used to in the Columbia Valley... in other words, 2016 was shaping up to be a year that broke all the records.

Then, July happened. Or, we suppose, didn't happen. It was a perfect example of that very interesting bit of life in which as soon as you think you know what's going on, it manifests into something entirely different. In many areas, July was the hottest month the earth has seen in modern times... but in Washington, in our vineyards... it was relatively cool.

Growth was moderated and slowed, ripening halted while the sugars and acids started to balance. August began with lamb-like intensity, coaxing along the grapes into an early- but not outrageous- start to harvest.

We believe the 2016 vintage will give us generous whites of substantial body and rich reds in the intense and extracted direction.

wine pH: 3.6 | **Total acidity:** .75 | **Residual Sugar:** 5.4% | **Alcohol:** 11.6%

Varietal Composition: 100% Orange Muscat

Malolactic status: Negative

Winemaking: Cool fermented in stainless steel to retain fruit intensity. Held between 55-60 degrees fermentation temperature. Stopped fermentation naturally to retain sweetness

Winemaker's Comments: The palate is greeted by a flavorful medley of orange, melon and rock candy flavors. Delicious! A pleasing twinge of Asian pear and ginger asserts itself on the finish. Enjoy with cheese, fruit and cracker appetizers.

“Orange Muscat, so called because of its distinct citrusy aroma and flavor, is unsurpassed with cheese and fruit. The intensely warm growing season yielded a wine of extra richness and intensity.”


Rob Griffin, Proprietor-Winemaker

Founded in 1983 by Rob Griffin and Deborah Barnard, Barnard Griffin has been producing Award Winning wines for over 30 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.