

BARNARD GRIFFIN

2015 SYRAH PORT - COLUMBIA VALLEY

Harvested: 9/8/15

Date of first Bottling: June, 2016

Quantity bottled: 1557 cases

Vineyard Locations and AVA's : Red Heaven (Red Mountain), Desert Aire Vineyard (Wahluke Slope)

Vintage Notes: The 2014 harvest was the earliest harvest in my 38 years...until 2015. We brought in Pinot Gris from the Caroway Vineyard on August 17th, a full week before our record early harvest in 2014, making it weeks ahead of a 'normal' year. Washington experienced an unquestionably warm June: we hit 100 degrees within the first week and hovered in and around the 90s until the end of the month, where we spent nearly two weeks in an uninterrupted streak of over 100 degree weather. Even at the summer's hottest, nightly temperatures were often a 40 to 50 degree swing from the high, allowing acids to develop and mature. The 2014 winter and a lack of a snowpack in the mountains left us with less water than most years; thankfully most of our vineyards were unaffected by drought-like conditions due to the strategy and diligence of their respective vineyard managers. Even with the influence of enormous heat, 2015 whites will have pleasing acid with balance and rich, bright fruit, while the reds will have soft tannin structure and intensely ripe, mature flavors. I was initially very cautious about this year because of its extraordinary conditions, but as it progresses I become more and more optimistic about the very fine quality in spite of the unusual weather.

Varietal Composition: 100% Syrah

Winemaking: Pumpovers 2-3 times daily; unaged grape brandy added and pressed at 10-12% sugar; peak fermentation temperature 85 degrees.

Malolactic status: Negative

wine pH: 3.9

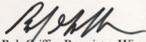
Total acidity: .6

Residual Sugar: 9.4%

Alcohol: 18.7%

Winemaker's Comments: "Port-style wines are about intensely ripe grapes. In our climate, Syrah achieves tremendous maturity when allowed to remain on the vine for an extra few weeks. This 2015 Syrah port is rich, ripe, youthful and totally enjoyable. Vibrant, ripe raspberry and cherry fruit flavors are brought in focus by an attractive, warming spirit glow. Bitter-sweet chocolate, brown sugar and baking spice notes chime in on the long satisfying finish."




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.