



BARNARD
GRIFFIN

ESTD. 1983



2020 Syrah

Columbia Valley, Washington

VINTAGE

I'm not sure many will remember 2020 for its vintage characteristics. Perhaps you'll remember more the wines you consumed during 2020, rather than the wines that hailed from its harvest. No matter. For winemakers, the season unfolded into a welcoming respite in an otherwise unprecedented and unrelenting year. Nature gave us a remarkably unremarkable harvest - which is not necessarily a bad thing. A Goldilocks vintage, if you will: not too hot, not too cold. Just right. Things were kicked off on time, with a frost-free, temperate spring. Summer heat arrived in full force, while a surprise fall freeze never materialized - instead we were granted an autumn that gave us an extended ripening window for the reds in need. Maturation moved along as it should, acids and sugars came in balanced, the resultant juice expressive and well-defined within its varietal.

I would be remiss not to mention the human factors that appeared throughout 2020's harvest; an ongoing pandemic (have you heard of it?) and wildfires tore through the Pacific Northwest, cloaking our region in smoke. Fortunately, we were already wearing masks... In the end, we made it through both unscathed - with a healthy cellar team and grapes that came in without a touch of smoke taint. Is this what they call luck?

When you open up a bottle of 2020 Barnard Griffin, you'll find whites that are balanced with a firm backbone of acid and vibrant fruit flavors, while reds will be well-integrated, of reasonable alcohol and intense fruit.

HARVEST & WINEMAKING

Pumpovers 2 times daily; pressed at 2% sugar; peak fermentation temperature 85 degrees; aged 18+ months in barrel using new European oak and our upright oak casts.

Bottled in September 2022. Total production was 1496 cases.

TASTING NOTES

Displays a rich mix of tart cherry, black currant and dark berry flavors anchored by vibrant acidity. Plush, toasty and elegant. A great match for grilled lamb or beef.

VINEYARDS

Desert Aire Vineyard | Wahluke Slope

DETAILS

ABV | 14.2%
pH | 4
TA | .76
RS | Trace (Dry)
ML | 100%

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