

BARNARD GRIFFIN

2017 Syrah

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2017 Syrah - COLUMBIA VALLEY

Harvested: 9/1/17

Date of first Bottling: November, 2018

| **Quantity bottled:** 1841cs

Vineyard Locations and AVA's : Desert Aire Vineyard (Wahluke Slope), Gunkel Vineyard (Columbia Valley, Eastern Columbia River Gorge) and O'Brien Vineyard (Columbia Valley, Yakima)

Vintage Notes: 2017 was a knuckle-biter of a season. Spring was cool and very moist, delaying bud break by at least two weeks in most locations and creating concerns about eventual ripeness and disease. A really wet spring was followed by a really hot summer which got us back on track and mitigated the fears of mold on the clusters. Late summer was punctuated by huge regional fires which brought smoke to the region. We lost perhaps a week of ripening weather to smoke-filled skies, perhaps a blessing in disguise insofar as harvest was not unusually early. Fears of smoke-flavored grapes did not materialize. During the critical ripening period the weather was almost ideal and harvest proceeded in an orderly pace allowing optimal ripeness across most varieties. Wines have good acidity where desired but ample ripeness for great fruit expression.

wine pH: 3.8

| **Total acidity:** .65

| **Residual Sugar:** Trace (dry)

| **Alcohol:** 13.8%

Varietal Composition: 96% Syrah, 4% Cabernet Sauvignon

Winemaking: Pumpovers 2-3 times daily; pressed at 1-3% sugar; peak fermentation temperature 85 degrees; aged in European oak barrels and upright ovals. 100% Malolactic positive

Winemaker's Comments: "The Syrah from Desert Aire Vineyard, which is the backbone of this blend, has some of the most expressive fruit flavor in Washington. Syrah in our climate has a wonderful balance of refined acidity and structure (think France) and bright definitional fruit (think Australia) without overblown alcohol. Complex, layered and elegant, this Syrah features tart cherry/plum, bittersweet chocolate and well-integrated oak spice flavors. Very well paired with a Syrah-based wine reduction sauce and tender cuts of beef."


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.

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