

## BARBERA CLUB

**B**arbera is the varietal and wine we are best known for. As a Barbera Club member, you're probably aware of this! Our product lineup has steadily increased over the years, but this Piedmont varietal is still our main focus and our best seller. The Barbera wines we are introducing this year are from the 2020 vintage, a warm, ripe vintage that gave us plenty of sugar in the fruit and beautiful, inky color. All three of the Barbera wines you receive in this package (Blood Red, Columbia Valley, and Estate) have an excellent balance of fruit, acid, and tannins, ensuring your satisfaction now and for years to come.



Since you are a Barbera lover, allow us to further educate you on this varietal and wine. Here are some interesting facts and information for you:

- Barbera is home to NW Italy, in the Piedmont region.
- Some historical accounts claim the Roman empire invaded this area of Italy and found the local wine "barbaric", hence the name *Barbera*.
- Barbera d'Alba and Barbera d'Asti, two Piedmont versions of this wine are well-known throughout the world.
- Barbera has naturally high acidity and naturally low tannin. For this reason, many winemakers (including us) use a good dose of new oak to give the wine a more tannic structure.
- The high acidity in Barbera allows for a wide range of wine styles, including lighter, unoaked reds, rosé wine, sparkling wine, and big, bold reds that spend time in barrel.
- The low tannin and high acid in Barbera also allow it to be paired with a wide variety of foods, both lighter and heavier dishes. Higher acid in wine also brings out the flavors in your food.
- Although Barbera is home to NW Italy, it is one of the most planted red vinifera grapes in all of Italy. Currently, it is third, behind Montepulciano and Sangiovese.
- Our Estate Barbera vines were first planted in 1990, making them some of the very first plantings in the Pacific NW.
- Our Barbera has won numerous awards, including "Best of the Best", the only Barbera to have ever received this award in the Pacific NW.
- Thanks to you, we are one of the only wineries - in the world - that has a wine club dedicated solely to Barbera!

*With good cheer,*  
 ~All of us Cascade Cliffs Vineyard & Winery

**2020 CV Barbera**

*Varietals:* 100% Barbera

*Vineyard:* 70% Mission Hills, 20% McKinley Springs, 10% Cascade Cliffs

*Appellation:* Combination of 70% Walla Walla Mission Hills), 20% Horse Heaven Hills (McKinley Springs), and 10% Columbia Valley (Cascade Cliffs). Default AVA for this wine, then, is Columbia Valley.

*Aging:* 12 months in American Oak, 60% new

*Cases produced:* 325

*Profile:* This Barbera is a "middle ground" style, a bit softer in acid and fruit than the Estate and Blood Red. Still, there are plenty of bright cherry flavors here, maybe a bit more kirsch than ripe fruit. The finish is warm and zippy, with a touch of oak. This is a great sipping Barbera, and one to introduce fellow wine lovers to.

*Drink:* Now until 2027.

**2020 Estate Barbera**

*Varietals:* 100% Barbera

*Vineyard:* 100% Cascade Cliffs

*Appellation:* Columbia Valley.

*Aging:* 12 months in American Oak, 60% new

*Cases produced:* 445

*Profile:* We like to make our Estate Barbera in a more traditional, Italian style - that means a drier, brighter style than some of our other Barberas. But our 2020 estate fruit came in with high sugars and deep, dark color. The wine is still an Italian style, but with a bigger, fruitier style. Vibrant flavors of cran-cherry, ripe raspberry, and cherry pie dance alongside refreshing acidity and toasty oak notes. The finish is mouth-watering and demanding. Pair this wine with rich Italian dishes like lasagna Bolognese and spaghetti Carbonara.

*Drink:* Now until 2028.

**2020 Blood Red Barbera**

*Varietals:* 100% Barbera

*Vineyard:* 100% McKinley Springs

*Appellation:* Horse Heaven Hills

*Aging:* 12 months in American Oak, 60% new

*Cases produced:* 625

*Profile:* We find that a certain block of Barbera from McKinley Springs vineyard gives us the ripest, juiciest Barbera grapes and are, therefore, used to make our Blood Red Barbera. This vintage is a textbook version of Blood Red, oozing with decadent flavors of black cherry jam, sun-ripened berries, and toasted marshmallow. The acidity is still high, though, which works to balance this fruit-bomb, and the new oak gives it a layer of toastiness. Pair this wine with intense, salty cheeses, dried fruits, and gourmet dark chocolate.

*Drink:* Now until 2028.