

Newsletter No 1

PIEDMONT CLUB

Our love of Piedmont, Italy begins with the two main red varietals that are grow there: Barbera and Nebbiolo. When Nebbiolo was first planted on our property in 1988, the thought of a Piedmont varietal following in the NW was a pipe dream at best. When Barbera followed in 1990,



that dream slowly inched forward. And when 5 more acres of Barbera were planted in 1999-2000, the dream began looking like reality. Of course, none of this would matter unless people tried the wine, liked the wine, and bought the wine.

Our winemaker/owner, Bob Lorkowski has been whispering sweet nothings to our Barbera and Nebbiolo vines for decades now, giving them the love and attention they need to thrive. But it is inside the winery where the real love affair is. Our Piedmont varietal wines - Barbera, Dolcetto, Nebbiolo, and blends of these - have won numerous awards over the years, and more importantly, have won over the hearts of many. And we did it a little differently than most; whereas Nebbiolo is King and Barbera is the more common wine in Piedmont, our Barbera is by far the most popular wine we make. While we love our Nebbiolo, it is a more subtle wine, mainly made for club members like yourself. Regardless of this difference, all of our Piedmont wines stand out with their unique origins and flavor profiles. It's not easy to confuse Barbera or Nebbiolo with other wines. But we like to keep everyone on their toes with new, innovative blends like our *Allora* and *Piacere*. Or rosé wine, like our Rosata, made from these varietals. And of course, our decadent fruit-bomb, Blood Red Barbera, which created a cult following almost overnight. Tradition is important- but so is innovation and creativity.

This package consists of wines that follow tradition (Nebbiolo, Estate Barbera) and wines that take a modern, spin (Allora, Blood Red Barbera. They are all delicious, vibrant examples of what Washington State can do with Italian varietals. Drink these soon or hold them for a future treat. Either way, you won't be disappointed! Thank you for making our Piedmont dream a reality. Without you, these special wines would not be part of our daily lives, and would never see the bottom of a glass. Thankfully, that is *not* the reality!

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

TASTING NOTES

2019 Allora

Varietals: 40% Dolcetto, 30% Nebbiolo, 30% Barbera.

Vineyard: 35% Flume, 35% McKinley Springs, 30% Cascade Cliffs.

Appellation: 35% Columbia Gorge (Flume), 30% Horse Heaven Hills (McKinley Springs), 30% Columbia Valley (Cascade Cliffs). Default AVA for this wine, then, is Columbia Valley. Aging: 12 months in American Oak. Cases produced: 310

Profile: This wine is a celebration of the three most planted red grapes in Piedmont and a delicious representation of Italian "rosso" wines. Tangy flavors of red berry and sweet citrus fruit are tempered with the softness of Dolcetto. Mild tannins wrap things up neatly. Pair this wine with antipasti, lighter pasta dishes, and salmon. *Drink:* Now to 2026

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 Nebbiolo Varietals: 100% Nebbiolo Vineyard: 50% Coyote Canyon, 50% McKinley Springs Appellation: Horse Heaven Hills Aging: 12 months in American Oak Cases produced: 187 Profile: The 2020 vintage gave us great ripeness in the fruit, but a smaller crop load. As a result, this vintage of Nebbiolo is fairly limited, as we had to save a good amount for our reserve bottling in the summer. This vintage of Nebbiolo is softer and more supple than some years, offering tasty, dried fruit flavors of fig and date, backed by a hint of sour cherry. An elegant wine, deserving of dinner parties. Pair this with stuffed mushroom caps and creamy risotto dishes.

Drink: Now to 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.