



# AIRFIELD

E S T A T E S

## 2020 RED WINE



Marcus Miller, Winemaker  
Travis Maple, Winemaker

### TECHNICAL DATA

14.2% Alcohol  
3.70 pH  
6.0 g/L TA  
730 Cases  
Bottled 2/15/22

*Produced in a Vegan Manner  
(No animal byproducts used  
in production of this wine)*

Airfield Estates is a fourth generation family farm based in the Yakima Valley cultivating a wide range of premium grapes and crafting estate grown wines of exceptional quality. As the name suggests, Airfield Estates has ties to aviation. A portion of the family property operated as a training base for hundreds of Army Air Corps pilots during World War II. The pride, passion, and dedication of these heroes provide a great source of inspiration as we strive to pay tribute to them with our wines.

### VINEYARD

Established in 1968, our estate vineyard was one of the first commercial vineyards in Washington State. Our first plantings were Riesling, Gewürztraminer, and Cabernet Sauvignon. Over the years, we have expanded to over 20 varieties spanning approximately 830 acres. Nestled on the foothills of the Rattlesnake Mountains in the heart of the Yakima Valley AVA, our vineyard has one of the most spectacular views of Mount Rainier and Mount Adams. These sunny slopes are blessed with a long growing period, extended summer daylight, and cool evenings that yield well-balanced, world-class wines.

### VINTAGE

The 2020 vintage will go down as a very memorable year. The growing season was exceptional with a mild winter, warm spring, and moderate summer. Bud break occurred 2 weeks earlier than normal and veraison was well ahead of schedule too. Just as we were preparing for an early start to harvest, wildfires in the Northwest created a thick cloud of smoke over Washington State. Concerns arose about exposure to smoke. Taking a cautious approach, we delayed harvest until the smoke cleared and conducted trials to determine the effect of smoke on our grapes. Fortunately, results showed no sign of smoke taint. Proximity to the source of smoke plays a big factor, and our vineyard was a long distance away. Overall, we have not seen any impact of smoke on the 2020 vintage. Another major event of this vintage was an early frost that occurred the second week of October. Our winemaking team worked tirelessly long hours leading up to the frost. By the time our vineyards had been impacted by the cold spell, our winery was stuffed with fermenting grapes and harvest was 95% complete. All remaining grapes were then hand-harvested and sorted with an optical sorter to remove any excessive M.O.G. or bad grapes. After our wines completed alcoholic fermentation, we were very pleased with the results. We at Airfield have another stunning vintage for you to enjoy. The 2020 wines showcase an abundance of ripe fruit aromatics, low tannin profiles, and exceptionally balanced finishes.

### WINEMAKING

Sourced from our Estate Vineyard located in the Yakima Valley AVA, each Varietal of this Red Blend was harvested at various times from mid to late October at Optimal Maturity and sent to various size stainless steel fermenters. The extraction approach was different for each varietal with the overall goal being to create a wine that is expressive of its varietal characteristics. After each varietal was finished with fermentation, the wines were sent to various French oak coopers and inoculated for Malo-Lactic fermentation. During this time, each barrel had its lees stirred twice a month for 3 months. This process gives the wine a rounder mouthfeel while naturally softening the wine. After 10 months of aging, the final blend was constructed and aged together as a final blend for an additional eight months. Aged in 100% French Oak for 16 months with 25% being New French Oak, 25% 2yr old French Oak and 50% Neutral French Oak. The goal of this blend is to have each varietal play an important part in the wine, creating complex flavors that constantly evolve with balanced oak notes and a velvet like mouthfeel.

### TASTING NOTES

The 2020 Red Wine, a delightful and easy drinking Bordeaux Blend displays dark fruit aromas of blackberry, Black currants, blueberry compote with interwoven notes of cola and dark chocolate. The palate shows the wines subtle tannins that are balanced with secondary flavors of smoked dates, Bing Cherry, and sweet espresso. The wine has a long-lasting finish with savory toasted oak notes that

AirfieldWines



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