

# Batchelor's Button

2016 | WALLA WALLA VALLEY



100% Cabernet Sauvignon

44% Les Collines Vineyard  
44% Summit View Vineyard  
12% Wallula Vineyard

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

pH: 3.85

TA: 5.4 g/liter

RS: <0.5 g/liter

14.5% alc.

368 cases produced



## Harvest and Winemaking

2016 was a continuation of very warm vintages that Washington has experienced since 2013. We experienced brilliant sunny and hot weather during the summer and fall except for a few days of rain in mid-October. Washington's climate is remarkable for consistent and excellent vintages.

The 15th vintage of the Batchelor's Button is 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Wallula was harvested on September 22, Summit View on September 24, and Les Collines on October 6. All the grapes were hand-harvested, hand-sorted, and destemmed before a 3 to 5 day cold soak. Native yeasts conducted the fermentation and the wines were pressed at near dryness. Only the free-run wine was retained for the Batchelor's Button.

The Cabernet Sauvignon was aged in 100% French Oak barrels (33% new) for 22 months prior to bottling. Most vintages we blend in a small percentage of Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc into the Batchelor's. 2016 delivered such a richness to the Cabernets that no blending was required.

## Tasting

The hue is dark red. There are ripe, rich aromas of black currant, fresh leaf tobacco, tapenade, graphite, baked bread, and green peppercorn. The mouthfeel is generous with excellent extraction and intensity. Balancing the intensity is a playful lightness from the acidity. There are flavors of blackcurrants, black olive, green peppercorn, graphite, and fresh oak. The finish is long with fine grain tannins.

While still a Washington wine in character, the 2016 Batchelor's Button has a hint of "Napa", derived from the very warm weather of 2016.

## Thoughts on Walla Walla Cabernet Sauvignon

Cabernet Sauvignon is Washington's and Walla Walla's primary red grape. Walla Walla is unique in the world of Cabernet as they tend to have a dried herb and red fruit character. Tannin levels in Walla Walla Cabernet can be very soft in the Rocks to very firm on the silt loam hills. Our preference is for a more firm tannic profile to extend the aging potential of Cabernet Sauvignon.

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