



# Washington State HUCKLEBERRY d' LATAH

*Creating*

*fine wines*

*from*

*Washington*

*State*



## CONDITIONS WERE IDEAL — FOR A WHILE

As harvest approached this past fall, conditions were near perfect. A hot summer and wonderful August got the grape ripening process off to a great start — sugars were rising as expected and acids were coming down. Red varieties were developing dark, inky colors and whites delicate fruit complexities. We were all set for a spectacular vintage. Then as August moved into September things changed; not dramatically but enough to cause issues. Daytime temperatures dropped a few degrees from normal. Sugar levels continued to rise but the cooler temperatures slowed the drop in grape acids. Winemakers statewide were delaying picking to get analysis numbers in line. Initial picking for us was nearly two weeks behind previous years and lasted later than any time before. Our last grapes, Sangiovese, came off the vine on November 1st — a full three weeks later than last year. With this being said, we were extremely excited with everything we received. The harvest analysis for nearly every variety was exactly where we would have wanted them to be — and — the resultant wines are turning out to be marvelous; full of intense varietal flavors and great acid levels. This is important to us since we want high acid levels to balance the natural residual sweetness present in most all our whites. The reds ended up with wonderful color and fruit and should rival the intensity of the 2005's.



## TASTING NOTES

Huckleberries are a small, blueberry-like fruit. Despite efforts to cultivate and commercially grow this delectable treat, the only source for the Huckleberry continues to be from the wild in the mountains of the Pacific Northwest. Those brave enough to compete with bears and other animals indigenous to the area are rewarded with a dark-blue berry that is uniquely Northwest. Typically used for jams, jellies and pies, we have found that the blending together of the berry's tart juice and our Riesling to be a real taste sensation. The subtle blueberry-like flavors of the Huckleberry add nice complexities to the wonderfully intense spice and floral characters of our Riesling.

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