



**2005
Washington State
NATALIE'S NECTAR**

*Creating
fine wines*

*from
Washington
State*

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DEFINITELY ON OUR SIDE THIS
YEAR**

Washington State's 2005 grape harvest rang up record-breaking numbers with crush (according to the Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers) estimated at 116,760 tons, surpassing the industry's previous record of 115,000 tons in 2002. Thanks to a perfect combination of warm summer months, cool autumn temperatures and a previous mild winter, the 2005 harvest yielded extremely high quality grapes. The crop was beautiful with many vines coming out of adolescence, bringing a maturity to the vintage not seen in recent years. Mother Nature was definitely on our side, delivering one of the warmest summers we've had in recent years followed by a prolonged Indian summer, constant fall weather and a frost-free harvest. This allowed the fruit to hang on the vine longer to further develop and enhance the wonderful robust characteristics found only in Washington State wines. Concentrated flavors due to smaller berry sizes and cluster weights set 2005 apart as a stand-out quality vintage. While it's still too early to tell, early indications lead many to believe that 2005 could very well be the vintage of the decade so far for Washington state. Today there are more than 360 Washington State wineries utilizing grapes from the state's 30,000+ acres of plantings. Latah Creek ranks near the 26th largest depending upon the source.



TASTING NOTES

After months of being without this deliciously sweet, intensely fruity, red nectar, we are extremely happy to report that **it's back and it's great**. As you remember, this wine was first released two years ago and marked the first winemaking collaboration between myself and my daughter, Natalie. This also was Latah Creek's first venture into the world of red dessert wines. During our trip to Italy the Spring before, Ellena and I discovered the marvelous Recioto wines of Northern Italy and decided right then that we needed a similar wine at Latah Creek. So upon our return, Natalie and I took 6 barrels of our 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon and blended it with unfermented Cabernet juice from the 2004 harvest. The resultant wine was really, really good and was released to rave consumer reviews here at the winery. This first and only release to date sold out much more quickly than we had anticipated so we have been out for nearly 6 months. For this second release, we decided to "**kick it up a notch**", as Emeril would say. We made this new Natalie's Nectar with Syrah. The result is a stunning, spectacular wine full of rich sweetness and Syrah varietal flavors. Can you tell I like this wine? Everyone here thinks this is even better than the first..

