



Doubleback & Bledsoe Family Wines

Wine Spectator's Top 100 List — 2018

Statistics

COUNTRY

United States

APPELLATION

Washington State,
Walla Walla Valley

FOUNDED

2007

ESTATE OWNERS

Drew & Maura Bledsoe

DIRECTOR OF WINEMAKING

Josh McDaniels

CASE PRODUCTION

11,000

FARMING PRACTICES

Sustainably farmed

Varieties

Cabernet Sauvignon

Syrah

Merlot

Chardonnay

Website

www.doubleback.com

www.bledsoefamilywines.com

Josh McDaniels named one of
"Washington's Game-Changing
Winemakers" — *Wine Enthusiast*

Winery Profile

For former NFL Quarterback Drew Bledsoe, his field of dreams extended beyond the stadium turf—the dream of founding an ultra-premium winery would eventually lead him to “double back” to the small town charm of Walla Walla, his hometown.

The first overall pick in 1993 NFL Draft, Bledsoe's career spanned 14 years, where he served as the New England's starting quarterback from 1993 to 2001 and was considered the face of the Patriots franchise during his eight seasons with the team. In 2007 he returned home with his wife Maura to set down roots. Their mutual love of wine led to the couple plant their first estate vineyard, McQueen. The following year they launched Doubleback as an estate-focused winery with the goal to produce world-class Cabernet Sauvignon.

Bledsoe sought the help of childhood friend Chris Figgins, who had taken the reins from his father Gary to direct winemaking at Walla Walla's most storied winery, Leonetti Cellar. Eventually Josh McDaniels would take his place—Drew hired McDaniels away from Figgins Family Wine Estates where he had trained for over a decade. Early critical acclaim included high marks from both the Spectator and Wine Enthusiast—impressively, the winery's inaugural vintage of Doubleback Cabernet Sauvignon garnered 95 points from each publication.

Josh moved into the role of President & Director of Winemaking at Doubleback and Bledsoe Family Wines, was named a “Game Changer of Washington Wine” by Wine Enthusiast and has most recently earned Doubleback's highest rating since the winery's inception; a lofty 97 points from Robert Parker's Wine Advocate. Since the very first release—the 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon—Doubleback has received numerous accolades including a coveted spot on the Wine Spectator Top 100 List.

The vision for Doubleback remains focused on crafting premium, terroir-driven wines of world-class quality. Together, Drew and Josh have concentrated on developing vineyard sites representing a unique soil, elevation, or micro-climate within the Walla Walla Valley AVA. These sites now include four estate vineyards —McQueen, Bob Healy, Flying B, and Lefore, and each brings a unique characteristic to the wines in the Doubleback and Bledsoe Family Winery portfolios. For Drew, Maura, Josh, and the entire winemaking team, wine is not just about drinking enjoyment but also creating compelling, layered wines of distinction.





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Winery Accolades

2016 Doubleback Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley

95 Points Jeb Dunnuck jebdunnuck.com

Deep purple-colored, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon offers a beautiful bouquet of crème de cassis, graphite, and spicy wood that develops nicely with additional time in the glass. Medium to full-bodied, beautifully balanced, and silky on the palate, with terrific purity, it has building tannins and a great finish, all giving it an accessible yet also age-worthy feel. It will keep for two decades. This cuvée is 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Petit Verdot, 4% Malbec, and the balance Merlot, brought up in 80% new French oak.

2017 Bledsoe Family Red Wine Walla Walla Valley

Winery Tasting Notes — Josh McDaniels

The Bledsoe Family [Red] Wine is always a customer favorite and something that is a work of passion. The 2017 Vintage is a dark, concentrated color and contains our highest percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon for this project to date. Cherries, blackberries, coffee, cobbler and dried herbs. A large mouthfeel but a balanced finish that gives this wine the ability to drink now but will also age well for years to come.

2016 Flying B Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley

90 Points Jeb Dunnuck jebdunnuck.com

The 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Flying B (85% Cabernet Sauvignon and 15% Syrah) offers a big, ripe, exuberant style in its blue and red fruits, violet, peppery herbs, and graphite aromas and flavors. Full-bodied, deep, rich, and loaded with fruit, it's one hedonistic effort that has loads to love.

2017 Elizabeth Chardonnay Walla Walla Valley

Winery Tasting Notes — Josh Mc Daniels

2017 was a stunning year to make white wine due to the fantastic growing season where we had nice warm weather, but achieved incredible natural acid retention in our grapes. Intentionally picked early in the growing season, the resulting wine opens with bosc pear, tropical fruit and cool wet rocks—almost as if you can smell the concrete “tulips” that it was partially aged in. The entire wine was whole cluster pressed, and then aged in 60% concrete, 25% stainless steel and 15% new and neutral French oak on the lees for 8 months. Tasting reveals a refreshing levity from natural acid yet a voluminous and long lasting finish. Subtle hints of cinnamon, and crème brulee tease through.



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