

Bergevin Lane Vineyards, OVERVIEW

For nearly two decades, Bergevin Lane Vineyards has been dedicated to producing premium red and white wines to move and inspire you. Our varietals include: Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah, red and white blends, Viognier, and our Bordeaux Blend called "Intuition." Our goal is to craft wines that are well-balanced, fruit forward and structured so that they may be cellared or enjoyed immediately, all at affordable, everyday pricing.

Vision

The vision that we share is to create elegant-styled wines that reflect harmony between fruit and oak. Stylistically, we create wines that reflect the unique terroir attributes of Washington AVAs, while maintaining integrity to the varietal characteristics. Some of our favorite adjectives for our wines include: food friendly, fruit-driven, structured and smooth... And simply put, wines that all can enjoy for any occasion.

The Story

The Bergevin family has been in the Walla Walla Valley for over 150 years. Annette's great-great grandfather, Beldam Damase and his brother Clement traveled across the plains from Quebec with eight other young men. A small wagon drawn by two horses carried all their possessions. The only time they would ride was when it was their turn to drive the wagon. With their sights set on farming the brothers finally settled in Frenchtown, what is now called Lowden, WA, in 1864. With no formal schooling the brothers worked with their two older brothers who had arrived before them, in the 1860's in supplying the mines and forts of the northwest. Beldam was also employed by Dr. Baker, who built the narrow gauge railroad from Wallula to Walla Walla, this being the first railroad in the state of Washington. Bergevin and his brother, Clem, cut ties for this railroad and drove them down the Yakima River. Both were expert axe-men and were in charge of the river drive.

Planting our vineyard was just a natural progression for our farming family. Our vines are planted on the land where Annette grew up, which was homesteaded in 1903. Annette cofounded and created Bergevin Lane Vineyards along with Gary Bergevin (Annette's father) and Amber Lane. Gary's prior 20 years of experience in the wine industry in both the vineyard and business aspects, Annette's operational experience and Amber's extensive sales experience was the catalyst to start the winery. Together they brainstormed, worked hard, and with a little luck brought to fruition Bergevin Lane.

Today, Annette manages the daily operations including sales and marketing and oversees the vineyard and wine production. If you visit the winery, you might see her with a broom & dustpan in her hands or wrestling with a case of wine for delivery. Being an owner of a smaller winery includes responsibilities that are not as glamorous as what she envisioned in her "dreams" but she will attest that she is doing what she loves and loves what she is doing....after all, there is great wine to drink at the end of the day!

Fast Forward to 2020, the Pandemic and a New Tasting Room

Years in the making and many challenges in between, Annette was finally able to create the tasting room of her dreams in the newly renovated Showroom on Colville in downtown Walla Walla. With a lot of help from family members, friends and loved ones the space was slated to open in March of 2020. Just days before the opening, Washington issued their Stay-At-Home orders and the opening was put on hold. In June, the orders were lifted (with restrictions) but the tasting room opened. Our friends and guests love the new feel, new look and a new space to enjoy a wine tasting indoors or out, specialty food bites, a firepit and a lot of love!

The Wine Making

All of Bergevin Lane's grapes are hand and machine picked then delivered to the winery. The fruit is transferred onto a sorting table where all damaged or sun-burnt grapes, twigs, and leaves are removed to ensure the quality of the fruit. The fruit is gently removed from the stems and using gravity flow methods is put into temperature controlled tanks where primary fermentation commences. Extraction techniques during and after fermentation include rotation pump-overs and punch downs and depending on the fruit, post-fermentation maceration depending upon the fruit structure. The wine is gently pumped into new oak barrels for the malolactic fermentation process. The wines age between 14 and 26 months in our temperature controlled barrel rooms. Walla Walla shares the same latitude (46°) as Bordeaux, France. The long, hot sunny days and cool night temperatures make for ideal growing conditions that produce ripe, structured wines.

The Vineyards

We are primarily sourcing fruit from Bergevin Springs Vineyard, our family vineyard planted in 2011. Going now on its tenth leaf, (2020) we are super excited about the quality and intensity of the fruit coming from the land where we grew up. Not many folks in Washington State can brag about that! Our other vineyards are located in the Walla Walla and Columbia Valleys. We have long term acreage contracts with Francisca's Vineyard in Walla Walla which is certified Live and Salmon Safe! We believe that to make good wine, you have to have good fruit, and we work closely with all of our vineyard growers.

Winemaker

Mike Wog came to Bergevin Lane after working with crews at top wineries around the world, such as Villa Maria in Marlborough, New Zealand, Lewis Cellars in Napa Valley, CA, and Dunham Cellars right here in Walla Walla.

Before becoming enamored with wine, Washington native Mike pursued a career as professional golfer, making it to the second stage of the PGA Tour Qualifying Tournament two times. To support his golf career, he worked as a server at an upscale restaurant in Scottsdale, AZ, where he began learning about and falling in love with wine. Mike moved back home to Washington to enroll in the Enology and Viticulture program at Walla Walla Community College. He graduated with honors in 2018, his second degree, having already earned a BBA in accounting from Western New Mexico University.

Mike's diverse experience making wine in multiple climates and with multiple varieties around the world make him perfect for Bergevin Lane's next chapter. His drive and passion will take our wines into the next generation.