

BLEDSOE WINE ESTATES

Historical Timeline: Walla Walla Roots Run Deep

1850's

The first wine grapes in Walla Walla are planted by Italian immigrants.



1920's

The Prohibition Era wipes out 7 decades of winemaking in the Walla Walla Valley.



1945

After WWII, Grandpa Stewart "Stu" and Grammetz Bledsoe (Drew's Grandparents) move to Ellensburg, WA to start their cattle ranch.



1960's
- 70's

Stu Bledsoe is elected to the Washington State Legislature, serving four terms, and is appointed as the Director of the Department of Agriculture and a subsequent service as the Executive Director of the Washington Forest Protection Association.



1974

Arlo James (Josh's Grandfather) becomes Mayor of Walla Walla, WA, while also playing an active role in the community by serving on the Green Tank Water Board.



1993

Drew Bledsoe is the first overall draft pick for the New England Patriots and begins legendary career, accomplishing: 44,611 Yards Passing, 251 TDS, current record holder for the most attempts and completions in a game (45/70). Also current record holder with 4 overtime TD Passes.



2005

Josh McDaniels begins his first winery in high school, Sweet Valley Wines, which focused on crafting Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Merlot, and Viognier.



2007

While in high school, Josh McDaniels begins internship with Chris Figgins and Leonetti Cellar, with plans to assume the role of Resident Winemaker at Bledsoe Wine Estates.



Blazing a New Trail

2007

Drew Bledsoe retires from the NFL, and purchases McQueen Estate with his wife, Maura, in the Walla Walla Valley. This original estate vineyard sits atop a ridgeline of fractured basalt and is the backbone of Doubleback.



2008

Bob Healy Estate is purchased. As one of the warmer estates in the Walla Walla Valley, Bob Healy produces red fruit driven Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec.



2014

Josh McDaniels officially becomes the head winemaker for Doubleback Winery. While with Doubleback, Josh receives accolades such as: Gamechanger of Washington Wine, Washington Wine Prodigy, and 40 Under 40... just to name a few.



2016

As Doubleback continues to grow, a new home is needed - thus began the purchase of the Flying B Estate in Walla Walla, WA. While home to the Doubleback tasting room. Flying B's diurnal temperature swings also create truly unique wines.



2017

LeFore Estate in the Rocks District of Milton-Freewater, OR is purchased. Originally planted in the late 1990's, Cabernet from LeFore is a stunner on its own and also the perfect compliment to our first vineyard, McQueen Estate.



2017

Bledsoe Wine Estates' second portfolio, Bledsoe Family Winery, is launched, including opening a tasting room in Walla Walla, WA and Bend, OR (2019).



2019

Josh McDaniels and wife, Kim, become partners of Bledsoe Wine Estates.



2019

Drew Bledsoe and Josh McDaniels solidify their partnership by expanding Bledsoe Wine Estates with a third portfolio - Bledsoe|McDaniels, focusing on Pinot Noir from the Willamette Valley and Syrah from the Walla Walla Valley.



2021

The first Bledsoe|McDaniels Estate, Coulee, is purchased in the Eola-Amity Hills of the Willamette Valley. The vineyard includes diverse aspects, soil types, and clonal sections that go into wines under the Bledsoe|McDaniels portfolio.



2022

The second Bledsoe|McDaniels Estate, Schafer, is purchased in the Walla Walla Valley. Located in the Mill Creek area, this vineyard is a pivotal piece for Syrah created under the Bledsoe|McDaniels portfolio.



2024

Bledsoe Family Winery announces the expansion of a new tasting room in the south side of the Walla Walla Valley. Located off of Pepper's Bridge Road, this new home is expected to be open for tastings in 2026.

