



AUGUST 2026



Head Winemaker
RODRIGO GONZALEZ

Cellar Report | August

RIESLING 2025

This month, we bottled another batch of our crisp and aromatic 2025 Riesling. This vintage offers bright aromas and flavors of lemon, lime, lychee and honeysuckle.

Originating in Germany's Rhine region, Riesling is one of the world's most celebrated white grape varieties. In the United States, Washington's Columbia Valley has become an important Riesling-growing region, producing wines known for their beautiful balance of ripe fruit and vibrant acidity.

Although many American wine drinkers associate Riesling with sweetness, the grape is remarkably versatile and can produce wines ranging from bone-dry to richly sweet and dessert-like. Our 2025 Riesling is crafted in an off-dry style that highlights the grape's signature freshness, aromatics and charm.

FRED'S RED

At the end of August, we blended and bottled a new batch of Fred's Red. This release is a bold blend of 48% Merlot, 31% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Syrah and 5% Petite Sirah, sourced from vineyards in California and Washington.

After 12 months of aging in American oak barrels, the wine opens with rich aromas of plum, violets and warm spices, all wrapped in the distinctive touch of sweet oak that has become part of the character of Fred's Red.

CRAFTING CLARITY: BARREL RACKING IN THE CELLAR

As we await the upcoming harvest, our cellar team has been busy racking hundreds of barrels throughout August.

Racking is the time-honored process of carefully transferring wine away from the natural sediment that settles at the bottom of the barrel and into a fresh, clean barrel. This gentle step helps improve clarity, refine texture and preserve the pure, vibrant aromatics of the wine.

Each racking brings the wine one step closer to its final expression, helping ensure that when it reaches your glass, it is polished, balanced and ready to enjoy.

HARVEST 2026 UPDATES

At a recent pre-season meeting with our grape growers, one thing became very clear: the 2026 harvest is shaping up to be exceptionally early.

Growers reported seeing veraison, the stage when grapes begin to change color and ripen, as early as mid-June. For perspective, veraison in Zinfandel typically begins closer to the Fourth of July under more typical growing conditions.

All signs point to an unusually early season, and our cellar team is ready for what promises to be an exciting harvest.

ALBARIÑO 2026

Our first grapes of the 2026 harvest arrived during the final week of August: Albariño from Lodi, California.

We were immediately impressed by the fruit's crisp, refreshing acidity and vibrant stone-fruit aromas and flavors.

The wine may only be at the very beginning of its journey, but it is already showing outstanding promise. We cannot wait to watch this one come to life in the cellar.

Cheers,
Rodrigo

