



Garagiste

WINE CLUB

[gar-uh-zheest'] noun - A French term used to describe independent, artisan winemakers crafting small batches of wine in garage-type settings and not yet discovered by the mainstream.

Time & Direction Wines

Owner & Winemaker: Steve Wells

Location: Walla Walla, Washington

A new winery project in Walla Walla, Washington, Time & Direction Wines was founded by Steve Wells in 2016 with a focus on Syrah and Rhône-style blends. Steve's journey into the wine industry is a great story, one that involves moving 3,000 miles to pursue his dream and ends with the establishment of his own ultra boutique winery in the heart of the Columbia Valley.

Steve first became interested in wine while waiting tables in New York City. He had been to wine tastings before in Wisconsin, where he grew up and went to college, but he had always been very intimidated by the process. Working in restaurants, he began to develop his palate and really started enjoying the complexities that wine offered. Over time, wine became a true passion of his.

Steve made his way into restaurant management and specifically into the beverage programs, all the way learning more and more about the world of wine. He was so inspired that he even passed both the Introductory and Certified Sommelier certifications through the Court of Master Sommeliers within months of each other - no easy feat! Following that, Steve's career really began to take off, becoming the sommelier and beverage director at Blue Water Grill and Blue Fin of the B.R. Guest Hospitality Group, the general manager of the Mermaid Oyster Bar, and the sommelier for the Standard Hotel Meatpacking District.

In 2008, Steve took a serendipitous trip to Washington state where he took part in an industry wine tour with stopovers in all of the state's major viticultural areas - and it was here, in the breathtakingly beautiful northwest wine country, that he was officially bit by the winemaking bug.

Next came the challenging task of convincing his wife to move his family from New York City to Walla Walla, Washington - with no job or place to live. But, that's exactly what Steve Wells did, and by Spring of 2011 they were on their way to Washington state in pursuit of a new lifestyle.

Steve's winemaking career began at the renowned Gramercy Cellars, where he worked for Master Sommelier Greg Harrington for two and a half years. He then enrolled in the Enology and Viticulture program at Walla Walla Community College, while simultaneously working with Aryn Morrel at M & L Production, a custom crush facility. In 2016, a new employee benefit at M & L allowed Steve to start making his own wine there, and thus was the beginning of Time & Direction Wines. His bottlings are made in extremely limited quantities and feature some exciting vineyards in Washington.

Time & Direction's name was inspired by the tattoos that grace Steve Wells' forearms: the clock and the compass, which are his own design and full of symbolism and meaning. The hands on the clock point to the time his daughter was born, while the compass is a reference to his family and the reason that he works as hard as he does. Combining the two gave birth to Time & Direction, two components essential to any journey in life - all you need is some time and a little direction.

Time & Direction 2017 'Old School' Syrah

150 cases produced

Columbia Valley, Washington

A blend of 95% Syrah and 5% Viognier from Eritage Vineyard in Walla Walla Valley and Solaksen Vineyard on the Royal Slope of Columbia Valley, the Time & Direction 2017 'Old School' Syrah delights from start to finish. The aromas show nuance with notes of olives, herbs, lavender, dark berry fruit, orange zest and crushed rock, while the mirrored flavors on the palate are rich and balanced, with a sense of freshness and poise. The finish is framed with lively acidity. Aged in oak. Enjoy!

Gold Medal Wine Club Price: \$36.00 / bottle

To order, visit the Wine Store at www.GoldMedalWineClub.com or call 1-800-266-8888

*2 bottle minimum per wine, per order. Shipping and tax (if applicable) not included. Call for details.

