

THE WINE RESERVE

AT WATERFORD



harvest

Harvest 2020 is Almost Here!

Thank you for your interest in helping us with our grape harvests.

The 2020 harvest season is underway all across Virginia and we are carefully monitoring the sugar and pH levels in our Waterford vineyards for the perfect picking conditions. We will email this distribution list when we know the exact date and time to partake in each of our harvests.



Here are a few things to know about the harvest experience (if you've never done this before):

- Things may be a bit different this year: We are cognizant of the health and safety concerns of anyone who chooses to participate in harvest given 2020's pandemic backdrop. We will ask all volunteers to observe social distancing rules and wear a mask whenever in close proximity with others.
- When it's time to pick, it's time to pick: Rain, heat, (insert any force of nature), can alter a grape's pH and sugar so Mother Nature determines when we pick. What this means is we typically get 1-2 days of a heads up for when it's go time. We try to aim for weekends so more volunteers are able to join us. Petit Manseng should be ready within the next two

week or so, Cab Franc should be ready towards the end of September or early October, so there will be two opportunities to join us for harvest.

- The early bird gets the grapes: Harvest typically commences around 7:00 a.m. and goes through about mid-day. The goal is to pick the grapes before the sun heats them. Grapes are one of those rare fruits that don't ripen after they're picked. More sun = more sugar = more alcohol. We welcome you to join ANY time during the effort however.
- Our winery. (The Wine Reserve at Waterford) and the vineyard are in Waterford, VA in Loudoun County: It's about 50 minutes from DC/NoVA. If you like to camp, you can camp at our other vineyard by our tasting room the night before.
- No experience. No problem: You will be working alongside an experienced vineyard team and we provide the instruction you'll need. You should plan to dress comfortably (pants, work boots with soft socks) but also protect yourself from the sun (hats, long sleeves). You can bring your own sheers if you are fancy like that!
- We celebrate: Following harvest, we provide lunch and wine and we're surrounded by a number of wineries and breweries so you're well-positioned to explore the area afterwards. When we release the wine 1-2 years later, we invite you back for a special tasting. If you can't make the whole day that's perfectly fine, but we celebrate only once it's all done!
- Still interested? Look for another email about 24 hours before each of our harvest dates. We will also put updates on Social Media ([Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)). Tell any friends who may be interested as well.

We would love to have you there!

Cori + Jon

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