

THE POPPIN' BOTTLES

CELLAR GUIDE

every bottle we ever popped, friends



28 WINES · 15 EPISODES · PICKED FOR MAXIMUM ENJOYMENT
WITH BRANDON & BARRY

FRIENDS, WELCOME BACK.

This is the wine show for anyone and everyone, now in guide form.

Every episode of Poppin' Bottles, we pop new wines, tell their stories, and put them straight on the shelf at The Fox + Bottle in downtown Edmonds. This guide collects every wine we've featured so far, with Brandon's backstory on each producer and Barry's honest tasting play-by-play.

No scores. No snob vocabulary without a translation. Every bottle is picked for one thing: maximum enjoyment. Most are everyday prices, a few are worth-it splurges, and all of them earn their spot. If a bottle sounds like your kind of night, come sip it by the glass or grab it off the shelf, and tell us what you found in it.

Wine is a gateway and a passport: to places, to people, and to a very good hour on the couch. Let's get our nose in the glass.

HOW WE FILE EVERY BOTTLE

TUESDAY NIGHT POPCORN WINE

Zero-ceremony. Open it on a weeknight and be happy.

ANYTIME DRINKER

Versatile, crowd-safe, party-proof. A drinker, not a thinker.

SLEPT ON

The underdogs. People sleep on these, frankly. Don't.

SPECIAL OCCASION

A thinker. Decant it, romance it, share it with someone who gets it.

Ep. 15 THE WINERY THAT BUILT THE GORGE AMPHITHEATRE



CAVE B ESTATE TEMPRANILLO 2021 *

ANYTIME DRINKER

TEMPRANILLO · ANCIENT LAKES, COLUMBIA VALLEY WA

The founders of Cave B are the couple who founded the land the Gorge Amphitheatre sits on: Brooklyn to medicine to farming the Gorge. This is a distinctly Washington take on Spain's noble grape, not a Rioja impression.

"A muscular teddy bear."

BARRY, ON THE PALATE



CAVE B ESTATE SYRAH 2022 *

ANYTIME DRINKER

100% SYRAH · ANCIENT LAKES AVA, WA

An approachable, Saint-Joseph-leaning Syrah on neutral oak: the bottle that lets you understand the grape without the heavy smoke. The one to bring to the next party.

"Brighter than I thought. The aromatics feel floral in a way I was not anticipating."

BARRY

Ep. 14 IS GRENACHE THE GREAT GRAPE OF WASHINGTON?



MADRONA BAY GRENACHE 2023, KNOX ROAD VINEYARD *

ANYTIME DRINKER

GRENACHE · WASHINGTON · GUEST WINEMAKER: JAMES OF MADRONA BAY

James thinks Grenache could become the great grape of Washington, and this rocky-vineyard bottling is his case: cherry, raspberry, strawberry, and a signature ruby-red-grapefruit aromatic, extracted warm for extra depth.

"The standout wine of the evening for me."

BARRY

PAIRS WITH: pulled pork, or even a light red curry. The texture can carry a little spice.

Ep. 13 THE PERFECT FIRST GLASS OF RED



TRANCHE CELLARS “PAPE RED” 2021

ANYTIME DRINKER

GRENACHE-FORWARD GSM BLEND · WALLA WALLA, WA · SUB-\$40

A southern-Rhone-style blend from a Walla Walla estate built for the outdoors (and, per the running gag, a 10-out-of-10 bathroom). The perfect first glass of red after bubbles, rosé, or a couple of dirty martinis.

“Super smooth. A nice up-front into a mid palate that’s smooth, then a pleasant fade off.”

BARRY



CASTLE & CROWN CAB FRANC 2022, ROYAL SLOPE *

SLEPT ON

100% CABERNET FRANC · ROYAL SLOPE, WA · ~\$42

Steven Lasko trained in Germany and Australia and lets the vintage speak, then signs it “elegance meets muscle.” Dark, plummy, structured new-world Cab Franc, the forgotten grape doing steak-night work.

“This is dope. A really pleasant, lingering back-palate mouthfeel.”

BARRY

Ep. 12 SUMMER REDS & FATHER’S DAY CABS



GIGONDAS “NOTRE DAME” 2023 *

ANYTIME DRINKER

~85% GRENACHE GSM · GIGONDAS, FRANCE · SUB-\$40

The approachable cousin of Chateauneuf-du-Pape: silky, integrated, neutral oak as a vessel only. A burger wine you can also lay down for years.

“Exceptionally smooth. Elevated, integrated, balanced.”

BARRY



BETZ FAMILY WINERY 2016, LEFT-BANK BLEND *

SPECIAL OCCASION

CAB-HEAVY BORDEAUX-STYLE · WASHINGTON · ~\$95

One of Brandon’s OG Washington wineries. Ten years in, the sharp corners have rounded into something rich and perfectly ripe. Brandon’s pick to share with his dad, Harry, on Father’s Day.

“The weight of the smell is luxurious. This is a treat.”

BARRY

Ep. 11 TWO HIDDEN GEM WINES UNDER \$40



RUSH LATTIN SAUVIGNON BLANC *

SLEPT ON

SAUVIGNON BLANC · NEAR PROSSER, WA · \$25

From Larry, Brandon's favorite Washington winemaker. Gooseberry, honeydew, white peach and Asian pear instead of New Zealand mint: a sleeper that sold out the night the crew almost didn't pour it.

"This goes down really, really easy. But it is delightful."

BARRY

PAIRS WITH: summer sipping, and the start of sushi night.



LA MADURA, SAINT-CHINIAN RED BLEND

ANYTIME DRINKER

GRENAACHE / SYRAH / CARIGNAN / MOURVEDRE · LANGUEDOC, FRANCE · SUB-\$40

Unfined, unfiltered, and it brings its homeland with it: big southern-French grapes made approachable, every varietal distinct. Brandon's easy gateway into French reds.

"Hyper smooth. This is one everyone's going to like."

BARRY

Ep. 10 & 9 THE BORDEAUX CHAPTERS: AGE-WORTHY AND \$32



SAINT-ÉMILION 2020, 100% MERLOT *

SPECIAL OCCASION

RIGHT-BANK BORDEAUX · FRANCE · DRINK NOW, BETTER IN 10-15 YEARS

Brandon's heart lives in Bordeaux, and this is his back-to-basics case for it: chocolate-covered-cherry Merlot whose sharp corners will keep softening for a decade. Buy several, hide one.

"Wonderful front palate into a full mouthfeel, then a nice lingering back palate."

BARRY



CHÂTEAU KERON 2015, RIGHT-BANK BORDEAUX *

SPECIAL OCCASION

MERLOT-DOMINANT · NEAR SAINT-ÉMILION, FRANCE · ~\$32

The roots of the whole Fox + Bottle journey in one glass: dark cherry and cocoa nib, still lively at eleven years old. Barry blind-guessed fifty dollars. It is thirty-two.

"Really elegant, smooth, delicious across the palate. It's not drying me out anywhere."

BARRY

Ep. 8 TWO FRENCH WINES YOU'RE SLEEPING ON



LA PETITE PEDIÈRE ROSÉ, 100% PINOT NOIR *

PINOT NOIR ROSÉ · LOIRE VALLEY, FRANCE

More backbone than a Provence pour: ripe strawberry, citrus, and a creamy near-melon mouthfeel. Not a porch pounder, this one holds with food.

"Starts clean, crisp, and light, then races up on you and holds on that back palate."

BARRY

SLEPT ON



CHÂTEAU BERTINEAU SAINT-ÉMILION 2023 *

~85% MERLOT, 15% CAB FRANC · BORDEAUX, FRANCE · ~\$26 · SUSTAINABLY FARMED

Brandon's favorite Bordeaux region at an almost unreasonable price: chocolate-covered cherry, cassis, silky tannins, drinking beautifully young.

"Cherry. Chocolate cherry, silky tannins, nice smooth texture."

BARRY

ANYTIME DRINKER

Ep. 7 SPRING WINES YOUR MOM WILL LOVE



DOMAINE LINGOT-MARTIN PÉT-NAT, 100% GAMAY *

ANCESTRAL-METHOD SPARKLING · SAVOIE, FRANCE

The OG farmhouse ancestor of sparkling wine, crown cap and all: strawberries and cream, unusually clean for the style, straight off the boat. Brandon's standing Mother's Day bottle.

"Bright, fruit forward. Raspberry, ripe strawberry, a little creaminess."

BARRY

ANYTIME DRINKER

Ep. 6 WHY CAB FRANC DESERVES A SPOT IN YOUR GLASS



ANGELIQUE LÉON CABERNET FRANC, CHINON * + INIAT CAB FRANC, LAKE CHELAN *

THE SIDE-BY-SIDE: LOIRE VALLEY, FRANCE VS COLUMBIA VALLEY, WA

The grape that first captured Brandon twenty years ago, tasted old world against new: a one-woman organic Loire domaine of 25 years versus a small Lake Chelan family winery. Fresh and herbaceous meets smoked meat, dried cranberry and candied orange. Buy both, taste them side by side at home.

"This is phenomenal, an accessible and great entry into French wine."

BARRY, ON THE CHINON

SLEPT ON

Ep. 5 THE HOLY GRAIL OF WASHINGTON SYRAH? RUSH LATTIN WINES



RUSH LATTIN PREMIUM SYRAH 2023 *

SLEPT ON

SYRAH BLENDED FROM THREE AVAS · WASHINGTON · GUEST: WINEMAKER LARRY

The flagship: three vineyards treated like paints on a palette, aimed at elegant structure and silky (never sandpaper) tannins. The wine that started Larry's whole second life.

"One of the absolute best Syrahs I've ever had."

FROM THE TASTING TABLE



RUSH LATTIN GSM 2023 + "TUGBOAT" CAB-SYRAH + "ILLUMINATE" CAB *

SPECIAL OCCASION

THE REST OF THE FLIGHT · WASHINGTON · 100% NEW FRENCH OAK ON THE CABS

A Chateaufeuf-inspired GSM on neutral oak; the "Tugboat," born because an \$85 Cab let Larry down so he built his own answer, labeled with his great-uncle's painting; and "Illuminate," a debut 100% Cab wearing his grandfather's storm-dark artwork. Serving law for the big Cabs: room temp, stand overnight, decant 2-3 hours.

"I could just sit here quietly and drink."

BARRY, ON THE TUGBOAT

Ep. 4 TWO WINES FOR SPRING



MAS DE BRESSADES BLANC *

ANYTIME DRINKER

GRENADE BLANC / ROUSSANNE / MARSANNE / VIOGNIER · SOUTHERN RHONE, FRANCE · \$24-26

A red drinker's white: the Viognier brings creaminess and lift with zero buttery-Chardonnay baggage. Pear, stone fruit, citrus, a light floral note.

"I could start the evening with this. I can stay here for half the day."

BARRY

PAIRS WITH: triple-cream brie on a toasted cracker, prosciutto, even shrimp scampi.



EL GURO "THE MAD HAIRY FELLA" *

ANYTIME DRINKER

~80% MONASTRELL + SYRAH + CAB · SPAIN · 12-14 MONTHS IN MIXED OAK

Picked half for the wild caveman label, kept because it over-delivers: dark cherry, dark plum, savory backbone that never punches you in the teeth. The step-down wine for big-Cab people not ready for Pinot.

"You get the dark fruit, you get some lusciousness."

BARRY

Ep. 3 EVERYDAY WINE VS. SPECIAL OCCASION WINE



LOBO HILLS SYRAH 2020

SYRAH · WASHINGTON · LOW INTERVENTION · LOW \$30S

Terroir-first, low-intervention winemaking that lets you taste the actual vintage. Inky, velvety, a touch of Syrah smoke, and safe to bring absolutely anywhere.

“Rich and lush and meaty, a little bit of that Syrah smokiness.”

BARRY

UPSCALE DAILY DRINKER



DOMAINE DE L'ESCARELLE CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE 2021 *

GRENACHE-LED GSM · SOUTHERN RHONE, FRANCE

The special-occasion pick, from a producer that's been at it for centuries and lets the blend shift with each vintage. Romance the wine: decant it, give it an hour, have a date night with it.

“So delicious. Silky, smooth, rich.”

BARRY

SPECIAL OCCASION

Ep. 2 & 1 THE CRU, THE FIZZ & THE VERY FIRST POP



ERICA'S RED BLEND (WINE CLUB FLAGSHIP) *

CAB SAUV / SANGIOVESE / MERLOT · EASTERN WASHINGTON

From one of Washington's premier winemakers, who consulted for the state's best houses before launching her own tiny 116-case label. Richness and subtlety with a little old-world funk, and the flagship of a women-led-winemakers club release.

“Smells incredible.”

BARRY, NOSE IN THE GLASS

TUESDAY NIGHT POPCORN WINE



VALDEMAR ESTATES CABERNET SAUVIGNON *

CABERNET SAUVIGNON · WALLA WALLA, WA · FIFTH-GENERATION SPANISH FAMILY

The first bottle ever popped on the show: a classic Washington Cab with old-world easygoingness, from a family running wineries on two continents. Brandon says it embodies exactly what The Fox + Bottle is about.

“Damn, that is good.”

BARRY, EPISODE ONE, GLASS ONE

ANYTIME DRINKER

DRINK IT WHERE WE POPPED IT.

Every bottle in this guide lives on the shelf at The Fox + Bottle.

Fox 6

six curated bottles quarterly,
\$225 per release

Fox 3

three curated bottles
quarterly, \$115 per release

Perks

release events, daily member
discounts, a complimentary
pour each visit, early access

THE FOX + BOTTLE · 112 5TH AVE S, EDMONDS WA

TUES-SAT 11-8 · SUN 12-6 · THEFOXANDBOTTLE.COM

WATCH POPPIN' BOTTLES ON YOUTUBE · LISTEN ON SPOTIFY & APPLE PODCASTS

*Cheers. We'll see you on the next one,
and we'll see you in the store.*