

Phelp's Creek Vineyards Hood River, OR Jennifer Kowal Summer 2022



View of Mount Hood from Phelp's Creek Vineyards.

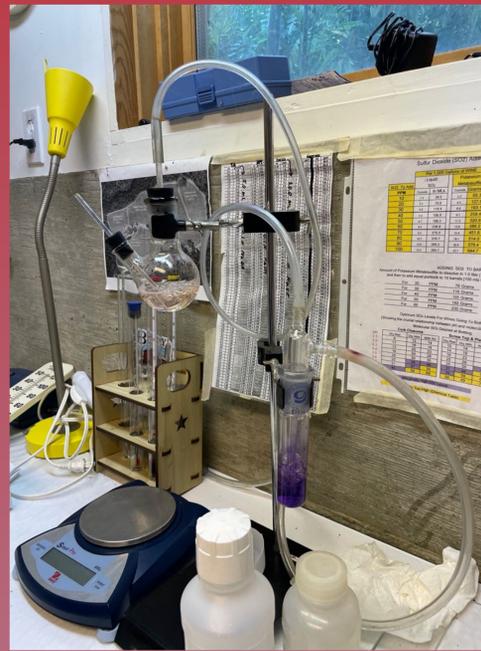
Introduction/Overview

Phelp's Creek Vineyards is a small vineyard/winery located in Hood River, Oregon. They produce mostly Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, with small amounts of Riesling and Pinot Gris. They are a 4,500 case per year winery, founded in 1990.

Main Section



I had my own 6 rows of vines to manage throughout the course of the internship. During the 3 months, I got to perform suckering, hedging, leaf removal, and cluster thinning. The 6 rows were completely mine, and everything that was done to them I was responsible for.



I was responsible for a lot of the lab work during Phelp's Creek's season. This picture is the apparatus that measures sulfur dioxide (SO_2) in the wine. This helps determine how much SO_2 needs to be added to the wines while they are still in the barrels before being bottled.



My biggest responsibility of this internship was hosting customers for Signature Tasting experiences and picnics in the vineyard. During these experiences, I would usher the customers down to the vineyard where I would then sit them at a table and pour them 4 of our wines (picture above) while explaining to them the techniques behind making each wine.

Summary

I am very grateful that I got the opportunity to work at Phelp's Creek Vineyards this summer. I gained experience in most aspects of the wine industry, including viticulture, enology, and a little bit of wine business administration. Through this experience, I was able to get a clearer picture of what I want to do in my future career. My favorite part of the summer was working in the cellar blending wines and running the wine tasting experiences for customers. This showed me that I want to be either a winemaker or more on the customer service side of the industry. Ultimately, I would one day like to own my own winery, and now I have more skills under my belt to help me get there one day.