



OUR STORY

David Dufenhorst spent decades as a real estate developer, traveling the world with his wife Michelle and their two daughters. Captured by the love of land and responsible stewardship, David and Michelle planted their family's roots in the small town of Orondo, Washington. What originally began as a small 30-acre orchard has turned into 300 acres of pristine estate land along the Columbia River. Rocky Pond Winery was officially established in 2013, and Proprietary Rock was launched by the Dufenhorst family in 2021. Today, there are 125 planted acres producing 24 different varieties from three vineyard sites; Clos CheValle (Chelan AVA), Rocky Reach Estates (Columbia Valley AVA), and the Double D Vineyard (Columbia Valley AVA).

“Just as vines dig roots deep into the soil, they’ve sunk those roots deep into us, too.”

OUR FLAGSHIP VINEYARD

The flagship Double D Vineyard (named after the original “DD” — David Dufenhorst) has a north-facing slope with 55 acres of Bordeaux and Rhône varieties. The elevation ranges from 740 to 900 feet. This is one of the hottest sites in Washington State, with similar heat units to Red Mountain.

The vineyard is low-density and situated riverside between the towns of Wenatchee and Chelan. Its bedrock is migmatitic tonalite gneiss formed during the Missoula Floods. The glacial outwash and redeposited river cobbles are mostly granitic, but there is basalt present as well. Wind-blown sand and silt were carried back to the area's topsoil over the last 14,000 years from previous flooding and glacial erosion down the Columbia River channel. DD's soil type is defined as pogue cobble fine sandy loam. As you walk the vineyard, you can see a myriad of cobblestones protruding from soils.

COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

All fruit is sourced from our three estate vineyards, which are each Salmon-Safe and LIVE Certified. The winery was designed with redundant power supplies to guarantee climate control and state-of-the-art pump over and pulse air technologies. It utilizes reclaimed water from the winemaking process — adjacent to the winery is an 880,000-gallon retention pond that irrigates the Rocky Reach Vineyard.



WINES

Proprietary Rock Red Blend
Proprietary Rock
Cabernet Sauvignon
Proprietary Rock Merlot

AVA SOURCES

Lake Chelan
Columbia Valley



THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE WINE

Shane Collins, Director of Viticulture: Shane is a fourth-generation orchardist and native of the Lake Chelan Valley. After graduating from WSU, his interests in farming and agriculture encouraged him to pursue the field of viticulture and enology. Originally, Shane was brought on as a winemaker and viticulturist, but as the vineyard holdings grew, it became clear that a dedicated Director of Viticulture was needed. A true “farmer at heart”, it made perfect sense for Shane to step into the role. Shane served 10 years as a board member of the Lake Chelan Wine Alliance, and is currently the Chair of the Washington Winegrowers Association.

Elizabeth Keyser, Winemaker: Elizabeth is a recent transplant from the Napa Valley where she held the title of Assistant Winemaker at the highly acclaimed HALL Family Wines. Prior to her time at Hall, Elizabeth held key winemaking roles at Napa’s Cliff Lede, A to Z Wineworks in Oregon, and Hardy’s Tintara in Australia.

Steve Leveque, Consulting Winemaker: Steve began consulting for Rocky Pond in 2020. Leveque’s winemaking resume is impressive, resplendent with Napa icons such as Chalk Hill, Opus One, Mondavi, and HALL. Steve is not only a winemaker, but also a viticulturist — he implements careful environmental practices with all his wine-growing efforts.

THE NEXT GENERATION

In 2021, David and Michelle welcomed their youngest daughter to the winery as the Rocks Society Wine Club Manager. Danielle DeBoe (Dani) received her BA in Business Administration and Marketing from Pepperdine University and recently completed her WSU Certification in Viticulture and Enology. A new family chapter has begun.



COME VISIT:

The Dufenhorsts have created two destination tasting rooms – the original Lake Chelan tasting room in downtown Chelan, and a new state-of-the-art tasting room in Woodinville. Both are also perfect for hosting trade visits.

rockypondwinery.com
P.O. Box 98
Woodinville, WA 98072
(425) 949-9044

info@rockypondwinery.com
FB: @rockypondwinery
IG: @rockypondwinery
TW: @rockypondwinery

