



**ROCKY  
POND**  
ESTATE WINERY

## ROCKY REACH AVA



### Washington's 20th AVA

Rocky Reach AVA takes its name from the Rocky Reach Dam and the Rocky Reach Reservoir (also known as Lake Entiat). Steamboat captains first applied the name "Rocky Reach" to the region in the late 1800's, to describe the rapids within a stretch, or "reach", of the Columbia River.

"We are extremely pleased to have the Rocky Reach AVA approved. This is an essential step towards recognizing what we've known for some time—that this is a remarkable place to grow and produce top tier grapes and wines."

— David and Michelle Dufenhorst, owners of Rocky Pond

### DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS

- Rocky Reach AVA consists of crystalline basement rocks, which are silica rich due to the mica and quartz minerals. This is in contrast to the existing Columbia Valley AVA, which is 95% basalt.
- The crystalline basement rock is composed primarily of metamorphosed sedimentary and igneous rocks that were once part of a chain of islands located off the western coast of North America.
- The soils were formed from wind-deposited sand and silt overlying cobblestone gravel and sand deposited by ice-aged floods 18,000-16000 years ago from the subsequent draining of Glacial Lake Missoula and Okanagan Glaciers.
- The coarser soils efficiently transmit water to deeper soil horizon which encourages vines planted in those soils to have deeper roots than vines planted in silty or sandy soils.
- Cobblestone surfaces quickly warm throughout the growing season that retain and radiate daytime heat to the vines, promoting faster and more complete ripening.

### AVA FACTS

- It encompasses 32,333 acres and is located along both sides of the Columbia River where the water has eroded a deep canyon. Within this canyon are flat-topped terraces near the valley floor that are ideally suited for viticulture.
- Approximately 7,900 acres, constituting 24% of the area is occupied by the Columbia River and Rocky Reach Reservoir.
- Currently there are 8 commercial vineyards planted covering 117 acres.

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