

Washington Wines in the Press:

“A decade ago, Washington had 144 wineries. Now it has more than 550. While the state produces all kinds of wines -- it has a little specialty in a grape called Lemberger and we especially like its Riesling -- many wine people there have said for years that its real star is Syrah, the great grape of the Rhône Valley of France and the same grape as Australia's Shiraz. While Syrah is only the state's fifth most widely planted varietal, it's first in buzz about Washington wines. And, indeed, it seems that the buzz is justified: In our last two broad blind tastings of American Syrah, in 2004 and 2006, our favorite both times was from a Washington winery...”



-DOROTHY J. GAITER AND JOHN BRECHER,
The Wall Street Journal, January 2009

“My annual trip to Washington is always a voyage of discovery, and this year I had the impression of experiencing early releases—and some barrel samples—from more potential future stars than ever before (perhaps not a surprise, as nearly 80 of the state's roughly 540 wineries will release their first crop of wines from vintage 2006). Among emerging wineries of note are such producers as Cadaretta Winery, Efesté, O'Shea Scarborough, Pacific Rim, Trust Cellars...”

STEPHEN TANZER, *International Wine Cellar*,
Nov/Dec 08

Vintage Select Buyers' Club Newsletter *April, 2008*

Introducing Efesté

Efesté, pronounced F-S-T, represents the first letter of the last names of the three partners—Daniel Ferrelli, Patrick Smith, and Kevin Taylor. The wines are being made by Brennon

Leighton, formerly of Chateau Ste. Michelle, who was responsible for overseeing the Eroica Riesling project. Predictably,

the 2007 Efesté Riesling from 'Evergreen Vineyard' is a masterpiece. It was our first taste of Brennon's wines and

what a way to begin! The acidity is very good and the wine has a cornucopia of fruit flavors. The 2007 Efesté Sauvignon

'Feral' was produced using wild yeast fermentation, and is all Sauvignon Blanc from Sagemoor Vineyard. It shows just how wonderful this variety becomes when treated with loving care. The 2005 Efesté Red 'Final-Final' is a blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon and 50% Syrah from Sagemoor, Klipsun, and Kiona Vineyards. It shows lots of cassis and black cherry fruit and is very well priced at \$26. After taking

a sneak preview of the 2006 and 2007 reds from barrel, we can honestly say that Efesté is a winery to follow.

DAN MCCARTHY
Owner/Proprietor/Wine Merchant

seattle
MAGAZINE

2009 Washington Wine Awards

***Best New Winery:** EFESTÉ

***Winemaker to Watch:** Brennon Leighton, EFESTÉ

***Best Riesling under \$15:** EFESTÉ 2007 Evergreen

↓ EFESTÉ