

KIONA FACT SHEET

BOX INFORMATION

Winery Name: Kiona Vineyards Winery
Street Address: 44612 N. Sunset Rd. – Benton City, WA 99320
Winemaker: Scott Williams
Local telephone: (509) 588-6716
E-mail address: kiona1wine@aol.com
Web Site Address: www.kionawine.com
Tasting Hours: Noon to 5 p.m. daily

OVERVIEW

Interesting points of the winery's history:

Kiona Vineyards pioneered what is now the Red Mountain Appellation by planting the area's first varietal wine grapes in 1975 and establishing the first Red Mountain winery in 1980. The inaugural 1980 vintage was featured with the opening of a tasting room in 1983.

Names and background of Owners if different from Winemaker:

John and Ann Williams were longtime residents in Richland Washington. John was employed full time as a metallurgist and systems engineer until his retirement in 1994 to devote full time to Kiona Vineyards. John was past board member of the Washington wine institute and served on boards of winery and growers associations. Ann has been involved in the winery from its origin. She has served on boards for winery associations, managed Kiona's tasting room and personnel, and is responsible for promotions, competition involvement and advertisement. John and Ann Williams together with former partners Jim and Pat Holmes were honored by induction into the Washington Wine Hall of Fame in 2007.

Story behind the opening of the winery/vineyard

In the early 60's John Williams became interested in wines as a consumer. John worked for General Electric as a research metallurgist. A circular to research organizations solicited participation in ad-hoc steering committees for various universities research programs in Washington State. Among the listing were Viticulture and Enology research trials by Washington State University, which were being conducted at the WSU Agricultural Research Station at Prosser Washington under the direction of Dr. Walter Clore. John applied and was accepted on the ad-Hoc committee, which convened quarterly. The information garnered from this committee participation inflamed John's interest in the wine industry. John planted a small 1 acre vineyard in 1973 to apply some of the research results. This small beginning was the embryo eventually leading to the establishment of Kiona Vineyards with former partner Jim Holmes.

Physical location and external surroundings of winery:



Kiona Vineyards is located on the southwestern slopes of Red Mountain. The winery is surrounded by the Estate Vineyards and adjoining undeveloped desert areas rich in shrub steppe vegetation. Other vineyards and wineries dominate the Red Mountain vista. Winery landscape is desert natural vegetation including Bunch Grasses, Sage Brush and spring wildflowers. Fall Rabbit Brush blossoms burst in spectacular yellow flowers.

Architectural style and year the tasting facility was built:

Our new “Desert Modern” Architectural style building was opened in April of 2007. Combinations of tile, metal and concrete exterior features are artfully applied to emulate color and the profiles of the surrounding desert mountains. The large expanse of windows provide a panoramic view of vineyards, the Yakima valley and distant snow capped Mount Adams. The building was designed by Joachim Grube, of Yost, Grube, Hall Architects from Portland, OR.

The original tasting room was opened in 1983 in the daylight cellar of Ann and John Williams home.

Overall decor:

Main tasting, gift and gallery area is open hall, with vaulted wood ceilings, custom modern Chandeliers, granite topped tasting bars, Terrazzo style concrete floors, and expansive windows.

Special common rooms: (library, meeting facilities, chapel, museum, etc.)

The winery has sweeping vistas of our vineyards and surrounding areas. The 10,000 sq. ft. upper floor features the tasting room with gallery and gift area, a special events room for meetings or gatherings and a catering kitchen. It has a viewing window that allows visitors to visually experience the 10,000 sq. ft. underground barrel cellar.

If property has on-site gift shop, typical merchandise:

Wine themed merchandise is available for sale. We also have gallery space available where local artists display their work.

Describe the type of tasting tour and options available:

Tours are available by special arrangement. Also annual special functions including the “Spring Barrel Tasting” and then “Catch the Crush” during harvest provide in depth features of harvesting, grape processing, wine making and the intricacies of crafting wines.

What can a guest expect to learn by taking a tour?



SPECIAL
PLACES

Principally, a variety of wines are available for tasting on a daily basis. Knowledgeable host personnel as well as owners provide for an informational based tasting. Discussions may include grape varietal viticulture parameters, terrior descriptions and wine making philosophies.

Is there a more in-depth tour with food for a fee?

There is no charge for wine tasting experience.

What 2 (or more) things make this winery stand out from the rest?

- **First vineyards and winery on Red Mountain.**
- **First U.S. winery to commercially produce Lemberger in the United States.**
- **Most years we are able to produce an ice wine – really frozen on the vine.**
- **National reputation for consistently high quality wines, year in and year out.**

What's the most romantic feature of your property?

Probably the view and actually being situated in the middle of the vineyards.

The 3 most popular attractions accessible from your property are:

The Tri-Cities (Richland, Pasco, Kennewick) have several top rated golf courses open year around. The Columbia River is a major fishing, waterskiing, and boating destination. North of Richland is the Hanford Reach National Monument which is the last free flowing stretch of the Columbia River (Jet boat tours available). The area averages 300 days of sunshine each year. There are miles of bicycle and walking paths as well as parks on both sides of the Columbia River.

TYPES OF WINES PRODUCED

Where do you obtain your grapes?

We mainly feature Estate Bottled Reserve wines crafted from grapes grown in our Estate Vineyards. Grapes purchased from select vineyards are used in some blends for which we do not grow a sufficient amount of grapes. We also sell some of our wine grapes to select wineries.

What grape varieties do you use?

Riesling, Chenin Blanc, Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Lemberger, Sangiovese, Syrah, Zinfandel, Cabernet Franc. We have recently planted small quantities of several new varieties to investigate their viticulture and varietal characteristics.

What varietals do you produce? **Same as above.**

What wine are you best known for producing?



SPECIAL
PLACES

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Lemberger, White Riesling, Ice Wine.

Which of your wines are you most proud of/why?"

CABERNET SAUVIGNON. The Kiona Cabernet Sauvignon grapes yield deeply colored wine with great balance and structure. Extended oak aging yields world class cabernet that can be enjoyed now or cellared for many years.

WINEMAKER

Background- past winery history:

Scott Williams, (John and Ann's son). Scott helped plant the original vineyard when he was in high school. He has a degree in Agricultural Engineering from WSU. After graduation, Scott managed wine grapes vineyards for others before joining Kiona Vineyards in 1984. Scott has thirty years of viticulture and wine making experience.

Philosophy of making wine:

Viticulture practices are paramount for wine quality. Kiona wine grapes are nurtured to optimum maturity using techniques honed by years of experience. Winery practices honor the character of the grapes with minimal intervention allowing intense varietal aromas and flavors in the finished wine.

Significant wine making accomplishments:

Scott was named as a "Grape Grower of the Year" by the Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers. He has been a past president of the Yakima Valley Wine Growers Assoc. and the Washington Wine Institute.

He has had two wines on Wine Spectator's "Best 100 wines of the year " list. Various vintages of the Cabernet Sauvignon have done well in national and international competitions.

Kiona Winery was named by the Dallas Wine Competition as one of the 20 wineries that have won the most medals in its 20 year history.

GETTING THERE:

Specific driving directions from nearest city, airport or major attraction. Include highway and road numbers, mileage and directions.

In the Tri-Cities, WE ARE one of the major attractions! The Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau has more inquiries about visiting wineries than any other attraction.



We are located 70 miles East of Yakima, 10 miles West of Richland and 20 miles West of the Pasco airport. From I-82 take exit 96 at Benton City. Turn North on Highway 225 for about ½ block then East on Highway 224 for 1 ½ miles to Sunset Road. Turn North (left) on Sunset Road. Kiona Vineyards Winery is located 1 mile North on the left. There are also a number of other wineries on Sunset Road.

Form completed by: John Williams

Date: 12-17-07