



## WINERY OF THE MONTH

### MAY 2018



#### **WHITEBARREL WINERY**

*“Creating happiness through our wine.”*

[www.whitebarrel.com](http://www.whitebarrel.com)

According to their mission statement, Whitebarrel Winery creates happiness through their wine....offering each guest an inviting and fun atmosphere where they can relax & reflect, surrounded by the natural beauty of the vineyards. The winery is noted for quality service, quality wine, and quality farm-to-table food. The Tasting Room was voted a Top 10 Favorite of Virginia Wine Lovers in both 2016 and 2017.

Located in the New River Valley, only a short distance from the New River and Little River, Whitebarrel sits on land that has been farmed for over a century in historic Childress, a mid-nineteenth century unincorporated area of Montgomery County. It is the oldest winery in the county.

In 2006, Whitebarrel (originally called Eclipse Winery and then Attimo Winery) started planting vines on a 17-acre parcel of Childress. Saving the land from the development of a residential community, the owners realized that the future vineyard estate would be well-located, resting on well-drained, clay and shale soil with veins of clay running through them. It is ideal for growing muscular wines with high extract and color similar to the Ribera del Duero region in Spain and the Albarese soil in the Chianti region of Italy.

Whitebarrel grows both red and white grapes, including Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot, Chambourcin, Baco Noir, and Saperavi. Varietals include Vidal Blanc, Viognier, Petit Manseng, Chardonnay, and Seyval blanc. In leased vineyards around Virginia, they also grow Riesling, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. In 2018, expanded vineyards will include Grenache blanc. Farming techniques include mostly organic treatments, a bio-dynamic approach and a focus on sustainable farming practices.

Whitebarrel is a “Virginia Green” winery with a strong commitment to the environment. The Tasting Room and wine production barn are both passive solar buildings with exquisite views of the vineyards. Many of the production techniques come from the Georgian style of wine making. The harvest, which usually takes place in September and October, is done exclusively by hand through a careful selection of grapes. All of the wine production is also done by hand.



*Owner Richard Obiso and Family.*

The Whitebarrel brand can be found in stores and restaurants across Virginia and Washington, D.C. In 2017, the winery expanded its acreage to Floyd County, with the development of vineyards, herbs, and gardens. Also in 2017, the Wine and Tapas bar opened in Blacksburg, marking the first of expanded satellite locations to come in Richmond and Northern Virginia.

Both restaurant locations in Christiansburg and Blacksburg serve a full Tapas-style menu with small plates that complement Whitebarrel, as well as wines from around Virginia. The menus focus on a true farm-to-table approach, using local fresh and seasonal ingredients. The restaurants and winery tasting room are open daily.

**WHITEBARREL WINERY**  
**4025 Childress Road – Christiansburg, VA 24073**  
**540-382-7619**  
**[www.whitebarrel.com](http://www.whitebarrel.com)**

**BLACKSBURG WINE & TAPAS BAR**  
**301 S. Main Street – Blacksburg, VA 24060**  
**540-382-7619**