

**BONAIR WINERY**  
**Gail and Shirley Puryear**  
**“Experience the Dream”**

BW-WA-121

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**OWNERS:**

Gail and Shirley fell in love with wine (and each other) as college exchange students in the wine country of Chile in 1967. After graduating from Washington State University, they moved to Southern California. It didn't take them long to discover the wine country of California.

Careers and children intervened for the next nine years, but in his spare time Gail read wine books, made wine, and taught wine appreciation courses. In 1979 the family moved back to their native Yakima Valley and purchased the five acres that is now the location of the original estate vineyards, the hospitality center, and the winery.

They planted the chardonnay and cabernet vineyard and sold the grapes to Quail Run Winery. Not satisfied with just growing the grapes, they decided to jump into the fledging Washington Wine industry and bonded the winery in 1985. Their family and friends felt sorry for them because they thought that no one would find a winery at the end of a dusty country road.

Shirley quit her teaching job in 1987 to work the vineyards and tasting room. Gail quit his job as elementary school principal in 1992 to devote his winemaking skills full time to the winery.

Bonair Winery now encompasses 35 acres of prime vineyards in the heart of the Rattlesnake Hills AVA. A state of the art winemaking facility and a beautiful new hospitality center with spacious picnic areas are open year round. Thousands of visitors a year drive down the still dusty road to purchase the many award winning wines and to share the Puryear's love of life and wine!

**THE VINEYARDS:**

The Puryears planted the original Estate Cabernet Vineyard in 1980 and the Chateau Puryear Vineyard Chardonnay in 1982. We have purchased grapes since 1987 from the four acre Morrison Cabernet and two acre Morrison Riesling vineyards, which were planted in 1968 with the blessings of Dr Walter Clore. When the Morrison Fruit Company closed in 2002, we were able to purchase the vineyards to continue our wonderful line of “old vine” wine.

The same year our next door neighbor retired and we purchased his 25 acres of fruit trees. These were removed and we established new vineyards to add to our estate. Our combined 35 acres of wine grapes in the Rattlesnake Hills AVA supply all the wine for our production.

We produce Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Malbec, Touriga, petite Verdot, Pinot Noir, Riesling, Chardonnay, and Gewürztraminer.