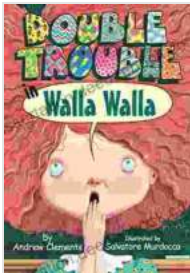


# Double Trouble In Walla Walla: A Tale of Two Wines



**Double Trouble in Walla Walla** by Andrew Clements

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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Walla Walla is a small town in Washington State that is home to two of the most famous wineries in the world: Cayuse and Leonetti Cellars. These two wineries are known for their exceptional Cabernet Sauvignons, which are made from grapes grown in the Walla Walla Valley.

In recent years, these two wineries have been engaged in a friendly rivalry, each trying to outdo the other in terms of quality and prestige. This article takes a closer look at the history of these two wineries and their ongoing rivalry.

## Cayuse

Cayuse was founded in 1997 by Christophe Baron, a French winemaker who fell in love with the Walla Walla Valley while working at Woodward Canyon Winery. Baron is a passionate believer in the potential of the Walla Walla Valley to produce world-class Cabernet Sauvignon, and he has dedicated his life to making the best possible wine from this region.

Cayuse's vineyards are located in the Rocks District of Milton-Freewater, which is a sub-appellation of the Walla Walla Valley. The Rocks District is known for its unique soil, which is composed of large, round stones. These stones help to drain the soil and provide the vines with excellent drainage.

Cayuse's wines are known for their intense flavors and complex aromas. The wines are typically aged in French oak barrels for 24 months, which helps to develop their rich, velvety texture.

## **Leonetti Cellars**

Leonetti Cellars was founded in 1977 by Gary Leonetti, a Seattle native who fell in love with wine while working at Chateau Ste. Michelle. Leonetti is a self-taught winemaker who is known for his meticulous attention to detail.

Leonetti's vineyards are located in the Walla Walla Valley, and he sources grapes from some of the most prestigious vineyards in the region.

Leonetti's wines are known for their elegance and balance. The wines are typically aged in French oak barrels for 18 months, which helps to develop their smooth, supple texture.

## **The Rivalry**

The rivalry between Cayuse and Leonetti Cellars is a friendly one, but it is also very real. Both wineries are constantly striving to make the best possible wine, and they both have a deep respect for each other's work.

In recent years, Cayuse has been getting more attention from critics and collectors. The winery's wines have been featured in several prestigious publications, and they have been selling for record prices at auction.

Leonetti Cellars, however, remains a favorite among wine lovers who appreciate the winery's classic style.

The rivalry between Cayuse and Leonetti Cellars is good for the Walla Walla Valley. It helps to raise the profile of the region and it encourages both wineries to make the best possible wine.

## **Visiting Walla Walla**

If you are interested in visiting Walla Walla and tasting the wines of Cayuse and Leonetti Cellars, there are several ways to do so. You can book a tasting at either winery, or you can visit one of the many tasting rooms in Walla Walla.

There are also several wine tours that offer visits to Cayuse and Leonetti Cellars. These tours typically include a tasting of the wines and a behind-the-scenes look at the wineries.

Walla Walla is a beautiful region that produces some of the best wine in the world. Cayuse and Leonetti Cellars are two of the most famous wineries in the region, and their rivalry is a testament to the quality of the wine that is produced in Walla Walla.

If you are interested in learning more about Walla Walla wine, or if you are planning a visit to the region, I encourage you to check out Cayuse and Leonetti Cellars. You will not be disappointed.

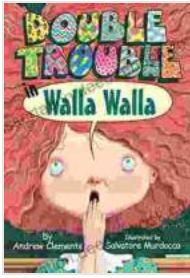
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