

...pursued by bear

Year Founded: 2005

Region: Yakima, Washington

Winemaker(s): Kyle MacLachlan, Dan Wampfler

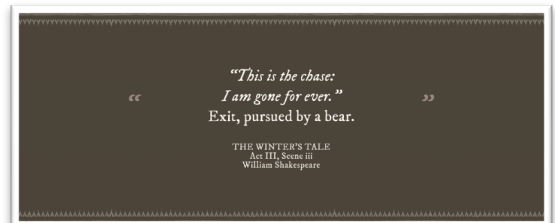
Fun Fact: Kyle is most famed for playing Dale Cooper in the television series *Twin Peaks*. He's also known for starring in *Desperate Housewives*, *Sex & The City*, *Portlandia* and *Fallout*!

-Organic, Sustainable-

Washington Star Power:

Napa Valley winemaker Doug Shafer says, "I've seen these celebrity wines come and go, but Kyle is the real deal. He's into it." Wine Spectator senior editor Tim Fish agrees noting, "The wines MacLachlan makes prove the point."

Kyle's first Shakespearean role after college was as Romeo on the main stage at the Ashland Shakespeare Festival; he went on to play many more in between star turns in films like *Dune* (1984) and *Blue Velvet* (1986). Our mascot, Bear, is Kyle's homage to the Bard of Avon, whose most absurd stage direction calls for a bear to appear, for reasons unexplained, in the tragicomedy *A Winter's Tale*. Bear, to us, embodies the similarities between the time-honored crafts of acting and winemaking. Both call for careful study, intensive work behind the scenes, and a little bit of magic. Bear is also—if we're being honest—Kyle's best imaginary friend.



Kyle's career flourished, both in movies and in television but the more Kyle traveled to perform, the more he missed his family and the natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest. So, he began making trips home to visit his dad, Kent. The two got in the habit of touring Eastern Washington's backroads together, visiting farmsteads, antique stores, and winery tasting rooms. A fateful father-and-son visit to Dunham Cellars in Walla Walla led to the debut, in 2005, of Kyle's secondary creative pursuit, a very fine wine called Pursued by Bear.

Winemaker Daniel Wampfler studied brewing, distillation, food science, horticulture, and viticulture at Michigan State, then added a masters degree in enology for good measure. He has made wine for Ste Michelle Wine Estates and Dunham Cellars, where he met Kyle. Dan has guided oenological operations at Pursued by Bear since 2008. Today, when he isn't hatching plans for the next vintage of Pursued by Bear, he shares winemaking duties at Abeja with his wife, Amy Alvarez-Wampfler. The Wampflers enjoy playing dominoes and drinking wine with their many friends, including Kyle and Bear.



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bear cub

Bear Cub Chardonnay 2024

Don't let the name fool you—this Cub knows how to charm. The 2024 Bear Cub White is 100% Chardonnay and 100% delicious, bursting with sunny aromas of pineapple, lychee, and citrus peel. A swirl brings out layers of juicy pear, lemon verbena, and just a hint of honey butter. Lush and mouth filling, it finishes fresh and smooth, with a brightness that keeps you coming back for another sip (or two).

From Dionysus and Golden View vineyards. 100% barrel fermented. Aged 8 months; 33% stainless steel, 67% neutral oak. Partial malolactic fermentation. Sourced from Dionysus Vineyard, a renowned Columbia Valley site known for Chardonnay with vibrant fruit, refreshing acidity, and subtle minerality. Warm, sun-drenched days and cool nights allow grapes to ripen slowly, preserving freshness and layered flavors. Sandy soils and steady airflow contribute to clean, expressive fruit. A small amount of Yakima Valley Chardonnay from Dick Boushey's Golden View Vineyard adds tension and lift, making the Cub a well-structured, approachable wine with easygoing depth.

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blushing bear

Blushing Bear Rosé 2024

Crafted in the spirit of the great rosés of Southern France, the 2024 Blushing Bear is a vibrant blend of 77% Grenache and 23% Mourvèdre, capturing the essence of the Walla Walla Valley's sun-drenched vineyards. Its delicate, rosy hue hints at the bright, expressive flavors within. Wild strawberries, white peach, and honeysuckle aromas mingle with citrus zest. The palate unfolds with juicy watermelon, Rainier cherry, and ripe raspberry, lifted by refreshing acidity. A subtle hint of crushed herbs and minerality add depth, leading to a crisp, thirst-quenching finish. Hand-harvested grapes were carefully whole-cluster pressed to preserve their fragrant aromatics and refined flavors. The juice then underwent fermentation and 5 months of aging in a blend of stainless steel and neutral French oak, enhancing its vibrant character while maintaining a fresh, clean style.

95 Points - Jeb Dunnuck - *"An outstanding textured, complex, and vibrant wine, richly layered."*



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Pursued by Bear Cabernet Sauvignon 2022

92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot. From Les Collines, Walla Walla Valley; Dionysus, Sagemoor, White Bluffs; Weinbau and Wahluke Slope vineyards. 30 months in 100% Taransaud French oak. bold and expressive, capturing the power and longevity of Washington State Cabernet. Subtle notes of cinnamon and clove lift delicate aromas of violet, blue fruit, and raspberry. The palate is concentrated yet fresh, with layers of Bing cherry, plum, and dark fruit framed by refined tannins and a firm backbone. Lively acidity brings balance and focus, extending across a long, lush finish.

93 Points – Vinous



baby bear
SYRAH

Baby Bear Syrah 2021

100% Syrah from Les Collines, Lewis, Phinny Hill Vineyards in Columbia Valley. Aged 34 months, new 600L. The 2021 Baby Bear Syrah is a vibrant expression of the vintage, offering a beautifully aromatic nose of black plum, dusty lilac, fresh violet, and subtle hints of black pepper. On the palate, layers of blackberry, boysenberry, and plum unfold, accented by savory notes of roasted coffee, clove, and a touch of dark chocolate. Firm tannins provide structure, while a soft, lingering mid-palate adds elegance. The finish is long and concentrated, leaving a rich, balanced impression.

93 Points - Wine Spectator - *"Refined yet vibrant and expressive, with raspberry and delicate blueberry flavors accented by fresh violet, grilled anise and smoked pepper notes that build richness and polish toward fine-grained tannins."*

92 Points - Vinous

92 Points - James Suckling



bear cub

Bear Cub Red 2021

82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Petit Verdot, 7% Merlot. Aged in 100% French oak, 30% new 30 months. Crafted from a growing season characterized by low yields and intensely colored grapes, the 2021 Bear Cub is a cheeky charmer strutting fresh, vibrant flavors and an easy-drinking, approachable style—generous notes of wild blueberry and dark plum leap from the glass. On the palate, rich flavors of lush cassis and succulent plum mingle seamlessly with hints of mocha and subtle undercurrents of spicy oak. The mouthfeel is smooth and welcoming, supported by silky, flavorful tannins and a long, lively finish. Grapes sourced from four premier vineyards build layered complexity in this distinctive blend. The 2021 Cub relies on grapes from Les Collines Vineyard located in the foothills of the Blue Mountains in the Walla Walla Valley; Weinbau Vineyard, a gently sloping south-facing site on the Wahluke Slope, and Dionysus and Sagemoor Vineyards in White Bluffs AVA, an area known for producing aromatic wines with great depth of flavor.

92 Points - Wine Enthusiast - *"The Bear Cub scampers, fueled by floral aromas of hyacinth, rose petals and dark raspberries. Nicely balanced, with silky tannins and elevated acidity, this ursine juvenile offers the ripest red and black fruit flavors this side of Jellystone Park. Additional flavors of dark chocolate, espresso, coconut and cedar are tastier than the average bear."*