

Viticulture Internship- Winemakers LLC -Prosser, WA

Alder Ridge Vineyard and Phil Church Vineyard

Winemakers LLC is seeking a viticulture intern to join our team for the 2020 growing season.

This is a great opportunity to gain experience in one of the most well-regarded growing areas in the state. Our locations in Washington include Alder Ridge Vineyard in the Horse Heaven Hills and Phil Church Vineyard in the Yakima Valley. We farm approximately 1200 acres of wine grapes and cherries in these sites. We grow many wine grape varieties; mainly Bordeaux, Rhone, German, and Burgundian cultivars. Producers that use our fruit are located throughout the Pacific Northwest; chiefly in the Walla Walla, Seattle, and Willamette Valley areas.

As an intern, you will be responsible for the yield estimation of and monitoring our two vineyard sites. Most of the daily operations will take place at Alder Ridge Vineyard with the remaining time spent at our other site in the Yakima Valley. Our schedule can be expected to be 5 days and 40 hours a week, Monday through Friday. The start date and duration of the internship is flexible but generally runs from May to late August/the beginning of September with the potential to stay on later into the fall for harvest.

Job Description

Your duties will include:

- Crop estimation including cluster counts and cluster weights.
- Other data collection that may be necessary.
- Vineyard scouting and documentation of pest and disease presence (weeds, insects, fungal infections, animal and weather damage, etc).
- Learning how to be safe around pesticide use and observing all necessary regulations and recommendations.
- Scouting for any other problems and occasionally monitoring hand crews and tractor drivers.
- Sampling fruit for maturity during harvest (brix, PH, taste and flavors).
- Participating in occasional taco lunches (usually on Fridays).

Requirements:

- Be currently enrolled in or a recent graduate from a viticulture and enology program. Candidates possessing relevant experience or a related degree in agriculture and plant sciences will also be considered.
- Be willing to work extended hours outside in all weather conditions (anywhere from freezing rain to 100 degree heat).

-Know or be able to learn how to identify common grape pests and diseases, nutrient deficiencies, and weeds.

-Be able to or learn how to safely operate an ATV on rough terrain for long periods of time.

-Be able to lift 40 lbs.

-Be able to stand, bend and walk for extended hours.

-Have a reliable cell phone in case of emergencies.

-Basic computer skills or previous experience with farming software is helpful but not required.

-Must have a valid driver's license, good driving record, and reliable transportation (the vineyard is in the middle of nowhere).

-Be able to work independently with little supervision, have a great attitude, and a willingness to learn.

-Although we are unable to assist with finding housing, out of area candidates are encouraged to apply if they are willing relocate to the area for the duration of this internship.

Pay: tbd

Contact Info: Please send resume and cover letter to Frank Shughrou: Frank@winemakersllc.com