



# AIRFIELD

E S T A T E S

## WINEMAKER

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**MARCUS MILLER**  
Winemaker and President  
Airfield Estates

As a youth, Marcus spent many summers working in the family vineyards. In those days, he never would have imagined that working with the grapes would become one of his true passions and also part of his profession.

Marcus earned a B.A. in Business Administration from Principia College in Illinois. Then he worked for a small brokerage house in Plano, TX and completed an MBA in finance from North Texas University. Toward the end of his MBA program, he gained a newfound interest in the family business.

In early 2003, Marcus returned to Washington and attended several meetings and conferences dealing with the wine industry. He soon realized that he stood at the threshold of a burgeoning industry. Marcus enrolled in the Viticulture and Enology program at Walla Walla Community College. While there, he was exposed to hands-on programs developed by the late Stan Clarke and his staff, which allowed students to make wines at the campus winery and also set up internships with the local wineries. Marcus did his internship with Canoe Ridge working with winemaker Kendall Mix.

Upon completing the program, Marcus was hired as the assistant winemaker for Tsillan Cellars in Chelan. The winemaker, Katie Smith, encouraged him to work a crush in the southern hemisphere, as it would introduce new ideas, philosophies, and perspectives of a different region. Marcus soon accepted the opportunity to work for Montana Brancott Winery in Marlborough, New Zealand. When he returned, he was appointed head winemaker in partnership with Peter Devison. Marcus worked with Tsillan Cellars through the crush of 2005 and then decided to join the family business as the head winemaker of Airfield Estates.