



ARETÉ

BRUT BLANC DE NOIRS
2016

2018 ARETÉ BRUT BLANC DE NOIRS

Willamette Valley

World-class, award winning wines from grapes grown at our Chalice Vineyard. The cool climate in the foothills of the Oregon Coast Range allows the grapes to mature slowly while maintaining the proper acid balance that is essential for producing the finest sparkling wines.

TECHNICAL DATA

VARIETIES 100% Pinot Noir

AVA Willamette Valley

TA 10.5g/L

RESIDUAL SUGAR 2.4g/L

ALCOHOL 11.6%

ELEVAGE Fermented and aged in 100%

French oak, puncheons and barrels

CLONES Dijon 113 and Pommard

VINEYARDS Chalice Estate Vineyards

SOIL TYPES Jory and Bellpine

HARVESTED September 2018

TIRAGE BOTTLED May 2019

DISGORGED August 2020

CELLARING 1-3 years

RELEASED September 2020

CASES

WINEMAKER Aaron Lieberman

PROPRIETOR Pamela Frye

SRP: \$33.99

WINEMAKER NOTES

What started in 2015 as a small project of personal interest to me has fast turned into one of the most anticipated and quickly selling wines we produce. Chalice Vineyard is well suited to the production of grapes for sparkling wine due to its high elevation and the generally cool conditions which prevail in the Lorane Valley. Cool growing conditions allow for ripe flavors to develop in the grapes at lower levels of sugar accumulation while maintaining higher levels of acid, all important factors in making world class, traditional method, sparkling wine. As with all of the wines we make at Iris Vineyards we carefully study and employ the methods used to make the highest quality sparkling wines in the world. The areas of the vineyard from which we source the grapes for this wine were selected prior to budbreak so the vines could be managed specifically to grow grapes perfectly suited to sparkling wine production. Once at the winery the grapes were gently pressed as whole clusters to minimize extraction of bitter phenolic compounds. The juice was settled in tank and then racked to barrels for a slow, cool fermentation. To maintain bright, fresh acidity we do not allow malolactic fermentation to occur. When the base wine is ready, we do tirage bottling at our winery and store the bottled wine for secondary fermentation and aging in tirage bins. We also perform all riddling, disgorging and labeling operations at our winery. A2 and B2 blocks, 5 barrels (1x2015 and 2x2016) + 2 puncheons (2016)

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2018 vintage saw a return to the trend of warmer than average growing conditions following a slightly cooler than average 2017. Budbreak was on April 25th which is close to historical average for our vineyard. Bloom occurred with favorable weather on about June 20th. From there on the season was one of the warmest and driest on record but with few heat spikes. We were also handed a cool, dry fall which allowed for extra hang time and a relatively stress-free harvest. The Chalice Vineyard site benefits from having large diurnal shifts, keeping temperatures low at night to slow maturation and enhance flavor development.

Awards and Accolades

Double Gold – *McMinnville Wine Classic*
Gold – *San Francisco Chronicle*
Gold – *Wine Press Northwest Best of the Northwest*
92 points – *International Wine Report*