

Iris

VINEYARDS



2019 ARETÉ BRUT BLANC DE BLANCS

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% Chardonnay

AVA Willamette Valley

TA 9.9g/L

RESIDUAL SUGAR 2.0g/L

ALCOHOL 11.2%

ELEVAGE Fermented and aged in 100%
French oak, puncheons and barrels

CLONES Dijon 76

VINEYARDS Chalice Estate Vineyards

SOIL TYPES Jory

HARVESTED September 2019

TIRAGE BOTTLED July 2020

DISGORGED August 2021

CELLARING 1-3 years

RELEASED November 2021

CASES 220 six packs

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 types of wine 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 with less 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.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2019 vintage had warmer than average growing conditions following a warmer than average 2018 and slightly cooler than average 2017. Budbreak occurred late in April which is typical for our vineyard. Bloom occurred with favorable weather in the last week of June. From there on the season was fairly average in terms of precipitation and temperature until September. The fall ripening period reminded us of conditions which were more commonly faced by growers and winemakers in the 1980s and 90s with a relatively early start to the rainy season. The sparkling wine grapes were picked before the fall rains arrived however.

Awards and Accolades

92 points Editor's Choice – *Wine Enthusiast*

Silver – *McMinnville Wine Classic*