



ARETÉ

BRUT BLANC DE BLANCS  
2019

## 2020 ARETÉ BRUT BLANC DE BLANCS

Willamette Valley

World-class, award winning wines. 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** 9.5g/L

pH 3.04

**RESIDUAL SUGAR** 2.0g/L

**ALCOHOL** 11.7%

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

**CLONES** Dijon 76

**SOIL TYPES** Jory

**HARVESTED** September 2020

**TIRAGE BOTTLED** June 2021

**DISGORGED** September 2022

**CELLARING** 1-3 years

**RELEASED** November 2022

**CASES** 191 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. The Coast Range foothills are well suited to the production of grapes for sparkling wine due to the relatively high elevation and the generally cool conditions which prevail there. 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. The vines from which the grapes for this wine were sourced are 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

2020 started with very mild winter nights. After a wet January, February through April were unusually dry. Bud break occurred in mid-April. The relatively dry late winter weather was followed by a spring with near normal precipitation and relatively warm temperatures allowing the vines to quickly produce a healthy leaf canopy. As can sometimes happen in the Willamette Valley we had cool temperatures and rain during much of June including the time during which the vines were in bloom. Rain during bloom results in reduced pollination of the flowers, the consequence of which is fewer berries per cluster and fewer seeds per berry. 2020 yields were down about 30% compared to 2019.

Also working in favor of quality were unusually cool average summer temperatures. A light crop load can ripen unevenly if temperatures are too hot, but this year the vines sailed through.

Due to the cool summer, the natural acidity is close to perfect, and alcohols are modest.

# Iris

VINEYARDS

