

2021 Pinot Blanc

Winery Name: GC Wines Owner/Winemaker: John Grochau Associate Winemaker: Aurelien Labrosse Year Founded: 2002 Winery Location: In the Eola-Amity Hills above Amity, Oregon (Willamette Valley)

About: John Grochau was first introduced to wine and the winemaking landscape in his early 20s, while racing bicycles for a French team in the Loire Valley. After ten years in restaurants and four years working in wineries, he started GC Wines in 2002. The goal has always been to make wines that are balanced, textured and expressive of place. Inspired by the diversity of the Willamette Valley's soils and microclimates, we source grapes from more than twenty vineyards from all around the Willamette Valley. While Pinot Noir is our focus, we are always pushing in new directions and exploring new varieties that include Gamay Noir, Melon de Bourgogne and Trousseau. We constantly experiment with new fermentation and aging techniques to create unique expressions of a variety or to bring some subtle nuance to a larger cuvée.

Vineyards: RPG and Bieze Vineyards, both located in the Eola-Amity AVA.

Vintage: The 2021 vintage was a unique growing season in the Willamette Valley. The year started off on the 20 year average with bud break beginning in mid-April. The summer was hotter and dryer than usual, with new record highs for temperatures recorded in the Willamette Valley. Despite the intense heat, we picked grapes with balanced sugars and acids, giving us wines that are immediately charming, with vibrant fruit and supple texture.

Winemaking: The grapes were whole cluster pressed, with the resulting juice being fermented in 1-4 years old puncheon sized Acacia wood barrels. The wine was aged on lees for 7 months before being racked to tank for bottling. Shows citrus, lychee and notes of white flowers and fennel

Case Production: 170 cases.

