



gc
WINES

2019 Willamette Valley Chardonnay

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 20's, while racing bicycles for a French team in the Loire Valley. After 10 years in restaurants and 4 years working in wineries, he started Grochau Cellars 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 15 different vineyards from all around the Willamette Valley. While Pinot Noir is our focus, we are always pushing in new directions and exploring new varietals that include, Gamay Noir, Melon de Bourgogne and Trousseau. We constantly experiment with new fermentation and aging techniques to create some unique expressions of a varietal or to bring some subtle nuance to a larger cuvée.

Vineyards: Havlin Vineyard in the Van Duzer Corridor, and Vivid Vineyard in Eola Amity.

Case Production: 200 cases.

Vintage: A relatively mild and early winter was followed by a wet, yet warm spring. The growing season saw a few mild frosts during late April, but started off warmer than average, moderating through mid-vintage with fewer than average heat spikes and near-record precipitation during June and July. The vintage will be remembered for the early rains in September and rapid cool down into October which challenged harvesting decisions.

Winemaking: We pick the grapes on the earlier side of ripeness to capture the fresh acidity. We gently whole cluster press the grapes; the resulting juice is settled for 2 days before going to French oak barrels for fermentation; only 10% of which are new.

The wine is aged 18 months on lees, with occasionally stirring, and shows a lot of citrus fruits, lemon, and tangerine.



