

Brittan Vineyards

2022 ESTATE CHARDONNAY

Robert Brittan developed a love for Chardonnay during his tenure as the first winemaker at Far Niente Winery in the early 1980's, a passion that continued to grow during his 16 years at Stags' Leap Winery. In 2004, Robert decided to leave California and start a vineyard project in the cool climate of the northern Willamette Valley, the home of the finest New World Chardonnay grown today.

VINEYARD NOTES

The Brittan Vineyard lies just 12 miles southwest of McMinnville, tucked into the foothills of the Coast Range. The original 18 acres were planted in 2001, but due to the challenging nature of this site and limited topsoil, only eight acres survived. Since 2004 when Robert and Ellen purchased the vineyard, it has been an ongoing rehabilitation project: replanting, retraining, and learning the unique landscape that has become Brittan Vineyard.

VINTAGE NOTES

2022 was a challenging but ultimately rewarding vintage. A cool, wet spring and late bud break left the Willamette Valley vulnerable to frost events in April. Our site is a little later than most, so our buds were just beginning to push when the frost hit. Chardonnay, our lowest elevation block, was most impacted by the frost, with primary bud necrosis leading to severely restricted growth and yields. Late season sun, warmth, and a particularly long rain-free spell in October allowed the grapes to finish ripening in an ideal end to the growing season.

TASTING NOTES

The 2022 Estate Chardonnay captivates with aromas of pear tart, yuzu, white flowers and orange blossoms. Meyer lemon, white nectarine and a hint of nutmeg compliment the subtle oak on the palate and lead to a long finish. Pair this wine with Dungeness crab or herbed roast chicken with potatoes, or enjoy after a meal with a host of cheeses or a persimmon tart. Drink now through 2032.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Estate Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 118 cases and 41 magnums

SELECTIONS: 4, 30, 95, 96, 124, 548, 809

ELEVAGE: 9 months in French oak, 35% new

DATE BOTTLED: July 28, 2023

ALCOHOL: 13.0%

SRP: \$50/ 750 mL, \$110/ 1.5 L

