

2021 Reserve Chardonnay

Eola-Amity Hills AVA | Willamette Valley | Oregon

Björnson Vineyard is part of a scenic 107-acre farm, located in the heart of Oregon's Willamette Valley. We are committed to generating renewable energy, farming sustainably, and making wine with minimal handling, so that each bottle fully expresses our exceptional terroir.

The Grapes for this wine come from our 28-acre Björnson Estate vineyard in the Eola-Amity Hills AVA. The vineyard is situated on a primarily southwest aspect at an elevation ranging between 450'-550' with predominantly rocky Nekia volcanic soils. This is 100% Chardonnay, Dijon 76 clone, from Claire's block.

The Wine is a traditionally pure expression of the Chardonnay grape in Oregon. Fermentation and *sur-lee* aging took place in oak barrels with complete malo-lactic conversion for a traditional character. With only 18% new oak and meticulous topping, this Chardonnay is not buttery or overly oaky, but is focused on the varietal's complexity.

The 2021 Vintage was a welcome return to normalcy after a year of fire and pandemic. We were graced with a hard-working group of all-female harvest workers who learned quickly, worked tirelessly, and laughed deeply. The vintage went smoothly, everyone got along exceptionally well, and we made excellent wines together.

In the spring, our vineyard experienced a strong rain event through bloom, which reduced our overall yield to just under normal, eliminating the need to thin our crop. In early June we experienced a heatwave; however, our vines were strong and healthy so our fruit was not damaged. We saw some very clean fruit on the sorting line, and we put our new destemmer and roller-sorting machine to good work, giving us fermenters full of beautiful whole berries. Our red wines turned out quite soft and generous, and we expect them to drink well when they are young. This vintage gave us good minerality and focus in our whites; and expressive floral and fruit notes and classic cola and tea characters in our reds.



BJÖRNSON
Reserve Chardonnay
VINTAGE 2021 • EOLA-AMITY HILLS • OREGON

Appellation: Eola-Amity Hills AVA, Willamette Valley, Oregon

Vineyard Björnson Estate, Claire's block, Chardonnay 76

Vinification: The fruit was hand-picked and gently whole cluster pressed. The juice was cold settled for one day before being clean racked and inoculated in tank. Once the fermentation took hold, the juice was gently racked into two French oak barrels and a large format puncheon barrel for fermentation. Malo-lactic conversion was completed in barrel with *sur-lie* aging and occasional *batonnage* for 10 months.

Harvested: Sept 25, 2022, 24.3 Brix

Finished Wine: Alc. 13.9%, pH 3.2, TA 7.7 g/L

Bottled: Aug 19, 2022, 140 cases



BJÖRNSON
VINEYARD

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