

DeLILLE  
CELLARS

## Chaleur Blanc

## VARIETAL

69% Sauvignon Blanc  
31% Sémillon

## APPELLATION

Columbia Valley AVA

## AGING

Drink Now or Age  
15+ Years

## VINEYARD

Boushey  
Sagemoor  
Klipsun  
Phinny Hill  
Conner Lee  
Olsen



**2023 VINTAGE** The 2023 Chaleur Blanc wears the concentration of the vintage well, with prominent aromas of ripe apricot, honeydew melon, lemongrass, and green apple leaping from the glass. This compelling wine is layered with stone fruit flavors, delicate herbaceous notes, and rich oak spice, creating a complex and sensational effort that is remarkably approachable. The acid is firm and well-integrated with the rich, creamy flavors of lemon brioche, honeysuckle, and pie dough. The 2023 vintage demonstrates Chaleur Blanc at its best and will surely cellar beautifully for the next 15+ years.

## WINEMAKING

100% barrel aged (French Oak, 42% New, 26% 2nd fill, 20% Neutral, 11% SS) Weekly Battonage, six months in barrel. Bottle aged 3+ months prior to release. 13.6% ABV

## PREVIOUS SCORES

93

James Suckling

92

Wine Spectator

92

Vinous

94  
POINTS

PREVIOUSLY REVIEWED BY  
**Owen Bargreen**

March 2023  
[www.owenbargreen.com](http://www.owenbargreen.com)

"This edition of the 'Chaleur Blanc' combines 69% Sauvignon Blanc with the remainder Semillon. Showing a deep color, this offers roasted hazelnuts on the nose with bright pear and starfruit tones. The palate is marvelously textured with showing good viscosity and weight without coming off as heavy. Very youthful and finesse-driven, this is beautiful wine to cellar over the next ten years. Drink 2023-2033" – Owen Bargreen

# • GRAN • MORAINÉ

2021

## Yamhill-Carlton Chardonnay

Sourced from our estate vineyard in the Yamhill-Carlton sub-AVA, our 2021 Yamhill-Carlton Chardonnay opens with tropical fruit notes, a touch of minerality, and a pixilated gravelly structure on the finish.

Beginning with bud-break around April 15th through May and into mid-June, there was hardly any rain. By June 15th canopy growth was good and flowering was setup for a normal timeline. At that point, the rains came, approximately 2", providing much needed moisture in the vineyards. Rain was followed by three days of record temperatures of 116 degrees, and a warm July and August led to an earlier than normal start to picking. A relatively mild September with a slightly smaller than average crop set us up for an incredible harvest.

### APPELLATION

Yamhill-Carlton

### VINEYARDS

100% Gran Moraine

### AROMAS

Clover honey, Champagne Mango, pineapple, crème brûlée

### FLAVORS

Kumquat, prickly pear, marzipan, flint, honeysuckle

### TEXTURE

Powerful with a gentle playfulness and incredible presence

### HARVEST

September 5-14, 2021

### AGING

17 months in 6% new French oak

### CLONES

76, 95

### ALCOHOL

12.8%

### TA

6.9 g/L

### PH

3.27

### PRODUCTION

982 cases

### ACCLAIM

93 points

James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com, March 2024

### OUR VINEYARD

Nestled in the eastern foothills of Oregon's Coastal Range, on the wild western edge of the Yamhill-Carlton AVA, the range's peaks to the west and south buffer maritime winds and rain from the Pacific Ocean, creating a more temperate growing season distinct from neighboring vineyard sites. Planted in 2005-2006 to Pinot Noir and Chardonnay Dijon clones, the 194-acre vineyard perches in thin marine sedimentary soils, and diversity of block exposures and elevation offer a diverse palette for our farming and winemaking team.

## SPRING SUNSHINE

After a rain shower



Gran Moraine wines shine a light on the monologue of the Gran Moraine Vineyard, lifting its voice and vibrant energy through a signature style of elegance and restraint, with a fresh through-line of acidity. A style that has established the winery as a leader in the Willamette Valley.

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GRANMORAINÉ.COM



## WILLAKENZIE ESTATE

### 2023 ROSÉ WILLAMETTE VALLEY

#### WILLAKENZIE ESTATE

Willakenzie Estate is located in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA in the Northern Willamette Valley, Oregon. The winery was established in 1991 by Bernard Lacroute, who was inspired by the Estate's dynamic rolling hills that reminded him of his Burgundian roots. The Estate is named for the marine sedimentary soil series on which the vineyard is planted, in keeping with tradition that great wines reflect a true sense of place. Willakenzie remains committed to its sustainable practices by preserving the biodiversity of the land and is Oregon's first LIVE certified winery (#001).

#### VINTAGE NOTES

After a long, cold winter, bud break finally happened at the end of April. Once spring arrived, temperatures rose quickly and the weather was beautiful for all of May, causing flowering in early June. The majority of the growing season had moderate daytime temperatures and cool evenings, but we did have some late season warmth roll into the valley during veraison. This warm weather advanced grape development, so vintage started early, and we finished harvesting the entire estate by September 22nd. The resulting wines from 2023 are simply delicious, generous, and loaded with beautiful fruit flavors.

#### VITICULTURE & WINEMAKING

The grapes that were used to craft this 2023 Willamette Valley Rosé were hand-harvested just after sunrise on the mornings of September 2nd and September 6th. After picking, whole clusters were loaded into our press and gently squeezed to extract pure, fresh Pinot Noir juice. The juices were then transferred into temperature-controlled stainless-steel tanks for both settling and slow, cool fermentations to retain aromatic intensity and freshness. The wine was bottled on January 29, 2024.

#### ALCOHOL

13.5%

#### PH TA

3.20 6.8 g/L

#### COMPOSITION

96% Pinot Noir

4% Pinot Blanc

#### SUSTAINABILITY

- LIVE-Certified
- Salmon-Safe

#### TASTING NOTES

This lovely Rosé is marked by its intensely confectionary aroma profile along with notes of fresh strawberries and hibiscus. Those flavors carry through to a well-balanced palate that offers great freshness, purity, and salinity.

#### PRODUCTION

1204 cases



MATANZAS  
CREEK WINERY

## 2023 CHENIN BLANC

### OUR ESTATE

Since 1977, Matanzas Creek Winery has been creating site-expressive wines in the heart of Sonoma County. We blend artistry with storytelling by embracing a mosaic of grape clones, along with innovative fermentation techniques, to unlock the full potential of each varietal. Our wines are not just exceptional in taste; they capture the unique terroir of Sonoma County. All of our estate vineyards are certified by the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance, ensuring each bottle of Matanzas Creek Winery wine embodies the essence of Sonoma County for a better tomorrow.

### WINEMAKING

To achieve a more delicate expression of this versatile varietal, Marcia chose to pick relatively early as compared to other California Chenin producers. This provided her signature acidity and a beautifully bright expression. Fermentation was controlled at low temperatures to preserve the vibrancy of the fruit. The wine was then split between stainless steel and neutral French oak barrels and puncheons to add complexity. We used a variety of yeast to emphasize the floral, citrus and tropical notes, and malo-lactic fermentation was suppressed to ensure a leaner palate with angular acidity and mouth-watering salinity, the perfect compliment to our diverse California cuisine!

### VINTAGE NOTES

2023 was a cooler year in California, marked by a cold, wet spring, a mild summer, and early fall rains. To ensure our grapes ripened perfectly, we thinned out the canopy leaves to boost air flow and sun exposure. This careful management let the grapes ripen slowly, enhancing their complexity, flavor depth, and acidity. Despite the cooler weather, 2023 will stand out for producing exceptionally balanced, acidity-forward wines.

### WINE PROFILE

COLOR: Pale straw

AROMAS: White flowers, lemongrass, melon, pear, mango and a delicate salinity

PALATE: Saline, with pepino melon, prickly pear and green banana with salty bright acidity

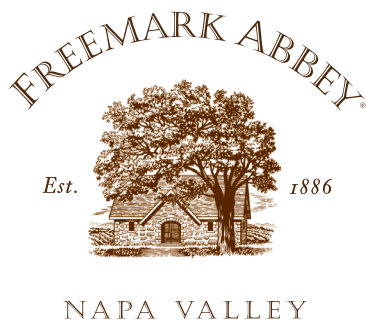
SERVING SUGGESTIONS: Serve chilled: 50-55°F. Pair with salads, root vegetables, fennel or ginger dishes or your favorite seafood, chicken or pork recipes

### TECHNICAL NOTES

WINEMAKER Marcia Torres Forno	APPELLATION California	ÉLEVAGE Aged 10 months in 51% neutral French oak & 49% stainless steel	CASES 3,800
COMPOSITION 100% Chenin Blanc	VINEYARD(S) 61% River Junction, 34% Alexander Valley, 5% Mendocino	ALCOHOL 11.9%	







# 2021 MERLOT *Napa Valley*

**WINEMAKER** - *Kristy Melton*

## WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Classic and refined is the approach we take when crafting Merlot. We love varietal expression and this one has it in spades. The nose opens with notes of blueberry, cedar, carob, and baking spices. The palate is lush yet well-structured with flavors of black fruit compote, milk chocolate, oak spice, and cigar box. The tannins are evident but integrated and refined, giving it a long, lingering finish.

## PRIMARY AVAs

Keyes (60%) - Located near the town of Angwin, at roughly 1,850 ft. elevation, this Howell Mountain vineyard sits adjacent to the Las Posadas State Forest, well above the marine layer, and with warm afternoon sun exposure. The summer days range from 55 to 90 degrees, with cool nights preserving the acidity. The mountainous soil is predominantly volcanic, shallow with low fertility, and producing merlot that expresses dark fruits like blackberry and dark currant, with a distinct minerality.

Missimer (14%) - Located on the valley floor in the Yountville AVA, this site is near the Napa River with good soil fertility. The Merlot from here is rich and densely textured with notes of blue and black fruit with well-structured tannins.

Buena Tierra (11%) - Located on Orchard Lane in the Oak Knoll AVA, the soil is a loose loam and produces wines that show bright fruit characters with savory undertones.

Benessere (10%) - Situated on the north end of the St. Helena AVA, this warmer location on the valley floor provides fruit with lots of plum and blueberry notes. The gravelly soil leads to lower vigor with great minerality and elegant tannins.

## GROWING SEASON NOTES

Vintage 2021 is a story of small but mighty. Drought conditions were prevalent in winter and spring. Temperatures were moderate during spring but began to warm significantly during summer. Flowering led to lighter than usual fruit set with low vine vigor. Warm conditions during ripening led to beautiful fruit flavors and intense color. Harvest started in mid-August with Sauvignon Blanc and carried on at a steady pace through September and October with red varieties. While low in volume, the wines are aromatic, lively and well-structured and we can't wait to share them with you.

## COMPOSITION:

94% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon

## AGE OF VINES:

Vines vary in age from 6-25 years old.

## HARVEST DATES AND SUGAR:

August 27 - October 13, 2023;

25.1° Brix at harvest

## FERMENTATION:

After a three-day cold soak, the fermentation was in stainless steel tanks at 85-90F.

## BARREL & AGING:

19 months in French Oak, 32% new

ALCOHOL:	PH:	ACID:
14.5%	3.54	6.2g/L

## LIFE SPAN IN PROPER CELLAR:

8-12 years

## NUMBER OF CASES PRODUCED:

1,300

## BOTTLED:

July 19 - 20, 2023

# Mt. BRAVE



MT. VEEDER  
NAPA VALLEY

## 2021 CABERNET FRANC

### HISTORY

Mt. Brave Vineyard sits high atop Mt. Veeder at an elevation of 1,400 to 1,800 feet. Mt. Veeder has been planted with winegrapes since the early 1860s by winemaking pioneers such as Charles Krug, Agoston Haraszthy, Frederick Hess and William S. Keyes. Wines from Mt. Veeder achieved recognition as early as the Paris Exposition of 1900. The parcel that became the Mt. Brave Vineyard, in the northern reaches of the Mt. Veeder American Viticultural Area, was originally purchased in 1841 before the Gold Rush and the Civil War.

### VINEYARD AND ORGANIC FARMING

High-elevation winegrowing requires a painstaking, labor-intensive approach. Mt. Brave Vineyard's thin, rocky soils and steep slopes make water retention a challenge and erosion a threat, but the vines benefit from the struggle and produce concentrated flavors. The high altitude keeps midday temperatures cooler than those in the valley below, while the position above the fog line gives grapes longer daily exposure to sunlight. This regularly extends the growing season into November, and the increased hang-time results in peak ripeness and full varietal complexity. Mt. Brave Vineyard was certified organic in 2023 after a five-year transition. Not only has the fruit reached a new level of excellence, the vines are more resilient without artificial treatments. We are now approaching regenerative accreditation. We are proud to farm with methods that contribute to a better global climate, healthier land, and more compelling wines.

### WINEMAKING

We hand-harvested grapes during cool morning hours as the fog blanketed the valley below. The wine was fermented in stainless steel and then underwent native malolactic fermentation in barrels to round acidity and softly integrate the vanillin character of French oak (70% new). After barrel aging for 22 months, the wine was bottled without fining or filtration.

### WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

The 2021 vintage started with just a little rain in winter and spring, followed by a moderate summer and cooler fall. The absence of heat spikes and moisture as the clusters finished ripening meant we could pick exactly when we felt the fruit was at its peak. This gentle growing season yielded vivid, fresh character. This Cabernet Franc evokes memory and possibility, with notes of raspberry and orange blossom lifted by ocean air. Lead pencil shavings and toast are nice grounding elements conveyed with a silky mouthfeel.



### TECHNICAL NOTES

COMPOSITION	100% Cabernet Franc	BARREL AGING	22 months in French oak (70% new)
HARVEST DATES	September 16	ALC. BY VOL.	15%
FERMENTATION	Native yeast fermentation	WINE PH	3.8
MACERATION	20 days	WINE ACIDITY	0.63g/100ml
		VINEYARD	Mt. Brave Vineyard



### ACCLAIM

98 Points – Lisa Perrotti-Brown, *The Wine Independent*, April 2024

Tour the vineyard with  
Winemaker Chris Carpenter





# HARTFORD

## HARTFORD VINEYARD

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY • OLD VINE ZINFANDEL

2022

### VINEYARD CHARACTER

The Hartford Russian River Valley Zinfandel is a blend of old-vine, dry-farmed and low yielding Zinfandel vineyards from the Russian River Valley. These old vineyards (average vineyard age is well over 115 years) offer an impressive expression of the varietal. Zinfandel grown in the Russian River Valley is distinctive with bright, natural acidity and vibrant fruit aromas and flavors which are a result of cool fog-laden nights and warm days. These dry-farmed vineyards planted on low-fertility soils consistently produce wines of exceptional density and extraction.

### WINEMAKING

To preserve exotic spice and bright berry flavors, we use the same gentle handling techniques for making Zinfandel that we use with Pinot Noir:

- All hand harvested with hand sorting of both clusters and berries at the winery.
- Pre-fermentation cold soak, indigenous yeast fermentations in small open top fermenters.
- Aged for 10 months in French oak barrels.
- No fining or filtration.

These artisan winemaking techniques allow the varietal character of Zinfandel to show through and express the Russian River Valley terroir.

### TASTING NOTES

The 2022 Hartford Russian River Valley Zinfandel is showing aromas of ripe plum, blackberry, and black cherry which are highlighted with hints of white pepper and allspice. Blueberry, red raspberry, nutmeg and mocha flavors lead into a long, bright finish with supple tannins.

### WINE STATISTICS

Oak:	100% French oak, 35% new
Time in oak:	10 months
Alcohol:	15.5%
TA:	6.7 g/L
pH:	3.49
Yeast:	Native
Bottled Unfined and unfiltered	

### HISTORIC ACCLAIM

2021:	<b>94 points</b>	A.F., <i>JebDunnuck.com</i> , July 2023
2019:	<b>95 points</b>	J.D., <i>JebDunnuck.com</i> , July 2022
2019:	<b>95 points</b>	A.G., <i>Vinous</i> , July 2021
2019:	<b>95 points</b>	T.F., <i>Wine Spectator</i> , May 2022
2018:	<b>95 points</b>	L.P.-B., <i>Robert Parker's Wine Advocate</i> , January 2021
2018:	<b>94 points</b>	V.B., <i>Wine Enthusiast</i> , September 2020
2017:	<b>95 points</b>	J.D., <i>JebDunnuck.com</i> , June 2019
2016:	<b>95 points</b>	L.P.-B., <i>Robert Parker's Wine Advocate</i> , October 2018
2016:	<b>95 points</b>	A.G., <i>Vinous</i> , April 2018
2015:	<b>95 points</b>	L.P.-B., <i>Robert Parker's Wine Advocate</i> , October 2016
2014:	<b>95 points</b>	R.M.P. Jr., <i>Robert Parker's Wine Advocate</i> , October 2015
2014:	<b>95 points</b>	A.G., <i>Vinous</i> , February 2016
2013:	<b>95 points</b>	R.M.P. Jr., <i>Robert Parker's Wine Advocate</i> , December 2014

