



# 2019 The Eyrie Vineyards CHARDONNAY ESTATE



**THE WINE** The 2019 vintage marks the fourth year that Eyrie Chardonnay includes both the Draper selection from our Original Vines, but also heritage clones planted at Sisters Vineyard in the Dundee Hills.

**DIVERSITY** Two clones, one *selection massale*, and a five-decade span of vine ages contribute to a diverse and complex expression of Chardonnay.



**80.5% DRAPER SELECTION - 53 YEAR OLD VINES, ORIGINAL VINEYARD**

This is a massale selection made by David Lett in 1964 from old vines in California. Clusters and vines show a range of shapes and berry sizes.



**6.2% WENTE CLONE - 5 YEAR OLD VINES, SISTERS VINEYARD**

Wente is related to the same 1882 importation from France that sired the Draper selection. Wente is typified by open clusters with “hens and chicks” berry sizes.



**13.3% STERLING CLONE - 5 YEAR OLD VINES, SISTERS VINEYARD**

Sterling is another heritage clone originating from a California vineyard near the site of the Draper Selection. Intensely aromatic, with compact cluster and even berry sizes.

**THE VITICULTURE & VINIFICATION** Both estate vineyard sites are 100% certified organic and picked by hand. The grapes were pressed in a combination of antique basket press and Champagne cycle press. Juice was run to neutral French oak barrels, fermented with indigenous yeasts, aged on the lees for 11 months without stirring, and bottled with a light filtration.

**THE VINTAGE** 2019 was perhaps the most “Burgundian” growing season we have yet had. Typically the Willamette Valley features wet winters and dry summers, whereas Burgundy distributes its rain evenly throughout the year. In 2019 we had a more Burgundian pattern, with rain and cooler days scattered throughout the summer.

Vines make sugar from air, sunlight, and water. 2019's well-timed rains increased sweetness while still retaining acidity - which leads to some of the best qualities a wine can have: refreshing and food friendly when young, but with superb cellar potential.

2019 is remarkable for another reason. This vintage was our 50th pick, and our 55th year growing grapes. On September 24th, 1970, with the help of friends, my parents picked their very first harvest. We started our pick in 2019 on September 24th as well, a fitting call-back on which to enter our 6th decade of winemaking.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

Fermentation & Aging: Burgundy Barrels (90.5% Neutral, 9.5% New)

Production in cases:	504
Bottling date:	January 2021
Appellation:	Dundee Hills (100% Estate)
pH:	3.23
Total acidity:	5.6 g/L
Residual sugar	0.0
Alcohol % by volume	13.03

## AVERAGE TEMPERATURES & RAINFALL

