



RIBBON RIDGE
WINERY



2020 RIDGECREST ESTATE PINOT NOIR

RIDGECREST VINEYARDS | RIBBON RIDGE AVA | WILLAMETTE VALLEY | OREGON

ABOUT THE VINEYARDS

Ridgecrest Vineyards is dry-farmed sustainably according to **LIVE** (Low Input Viticulture & Enology) standards.

Established - 1980 | **Planted** - 1982 - current

Elevation - 480 - 690ft | **Acreage** - 120 total | 41 planted

Of those planted acres, almost 25 are Pinot Noir, including Pommard (52%), Wadenswil (16%) and Dijon Clones 115 (10%), 667 (11%) & 777 (11%). The earliest plantings, own-rooted vines planted in 1982.

VINTAGE NOTES

Winemaking gets tested some years, like 2020. All the climate and grapegrowing underpinnings for greatness were there, but this time the test to the vintage was dealing with the Willamette Valley's first-time effects from wildfire.

And, we once again found that Place Matters. Distant wildfires had an impact on aromas, flavors and textures to varying degrees based on place. White wines were unscathed if made well, red wines benefited from a lighter touch in extraction and calling lucky sites, like Ribbon Ridge, home.

How great will 2020 be—close to perfect growing season, concentrated fruit from low yields—how a wisp of campfire is embraced maybe being the key? Grapegrowing is farming after all, winemaking an attempt at alchemy.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The 2020 Ridgecrest Pinot Noir shows why this grape is king of the valley around here. The nose starts off with a bit of graphite or flint, which accentuates the barrel spice and warm intensity of such a ripe and dense vintage. The nose shows pie cherry, tea leaf, ginger snaps, and black licorice. There's a tight, youthful tannin on the palate, almost mineral or copper, and the supple yet linear structure will hold up over a good aging, but will loosen to a more silky, open profile with a bit of time in the cellar or glass. There's cherry gum drop, barrel resin, warm toast, Szechuan peppercorn, walnut shell, and ripe apricot on the finish. It's a hard line to walk, being elegant yet dense, young yet traditional, but somehow this Ribbon Ridge Pinot continues to skate the lines beautifully.

TECHNICAL DATA

AbV - 13.3% | **TA** - 5.9 g/L | **pH** - 3.41

AGING - 9 months 36% new, 36% 1-yr, 28% neutral French oak | 10% whole cluster fermentation

CLONES - 70% Pommard/Wädenswil, 30% Dijon 667/777

VINES - 70% 39-yr-old own-rooted, 30% 17-yr-old

PRODUCTION - 864 CASES

RELEASE - September 2022

ENJOY - NOW-2030



Harry Peterson-Nedry | Founder



Wynne Peterson-Nedry | Winemaker/Proprietor



Ridgecrest Vineyards | Ribbon Ridge AVA
Willamette Valley | Oregon

When we first set foot on Ribbon Ridge in 1980, we knew it was something special. There was an indefinable magic to the place, in the low-slung, rolling hills that rise and fall like the breath of a slumbering child. It was undeniably alive, and bursting with potential.

In 1980 folks thought we were just plain nuts to plant wine grapes on that chilly rise located on the western edge of the Willamette Valley. The common thought at the time was that the site was situated too far west for grapes - too windy, too foggy, too cool.

We naively followed our gut, planting the first vineyard on what would one day become one of the premier wine appellations in Oregon, the Ribbon Ridge AVA. Ridgecrest Vineyards did not disappoint. Early barrel samples were encouraging. We studied it, continued to plant, and dug deeply.

Crafting our cellar-worthy RR wines since 2002, we know these vineyards – the ins and outs, strengths, and peculiarities of each and every block. We've done our homework.

Now, it's recess. We're ready to come out and play.*

Our new RIDGECREST label allows us to do just that – to experiment with all of those blocks, lots, and barrels that beg our attention every harvest – the ones we are loathe to blend with others, because they are just so damned intriguing. Pinot Noir will be the mainstay, with supporting roles played by Gamay Noir, Grüner Veltliner, Pinot Gris and Riesling.

Harry Peterson-Nedry

Wynne Peterson-Nedry



*Follow our progress from barrel to bottle,
from yurt to winery at ribbonridgewinery.com.*

*as much as two nerdy chemists have the capacity to do.