

# *Brittan Vineyards*

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## 2016 CHARDONNAY

Winemaker Robert Brittan, a wine industry veteran with over 40 harvest under his belt, has always had a passion for Pinot noir; a love affair that began in the 80's when he made several vintages under his Britt Hill label with fruit from Carneros. In 2004, Robert decided to leave Stags' Leap Winery in Napa and start a Pinot noir project in the cool climate of the North Willamette Valley.

### **VINEYARD NOTES**

The Brittan Vineyard lies just 12 miles southwest of McMinnville, tucked into the foothills of the Coastal 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**

2016 was the third vintage in a row in the Willamette Valley where flowering started earlier than normal, and the weather remained warm throughout the growing season. After a warm summer, the last ten days of the growing season gave us beautiful days in the low 70's, making for an easy and unhurried harvest. The grapes exhibited ripe flavors, but with more restraint and elegance as we get better and better at handling warmer growing conditions.

### **TASTING NOTES**

The 2016 Chardonnay is our most unique yet. Drawing from exclusively McMinnville AVA, this Chardonnay offers lively aromas of honeysuckle, tangerine and Meyer lemon. In the palate, an elegant framework of structure and acidity is complemented by a refreshing thread of citrus fruits and spice.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan and Hyland Vineyards

CASES PRODUCED: 390 cases

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

ELEVAGE: 8 months, 30% new French oak

DATE BOTTLED: August 2017

ALCOHOL: 13.3%

SRP: \$42/ 750 mL

