



2022 RIDGECREST ESTATE GAMAY 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 41 planted acres, only 2.5 are Gamay Noir, including 1 acre planted in 2019 and 1.5 acres of own-rooted vines planted in 1985, the oldest in the Willamette Valley.

VINTAGE NOTES

2022 restores your faith in Mother Nature's capacity to take a poor start and finish well, grape plants revealing their inherent resilience to rebound from nearly disastrous weather events.

In late April, buds were open and vulnerable when a hard and killing freeze settled in. Normally, if vines are damaged, grapes rely on secondaries to replace primary buds. But, this time the extent of the damage was extensive, with secondaries damaged too, so that we anticipated only a yield of 40% of normal, approximately 1 ton per acre.

Growing season weather however cooperated to boost secondary and tertiary buds, with the third highest heat accumulation in 26 years, focused at the end of the growing season, October averaging highs of 72F, with nine days warmer than 80F.

Crop load yielded 85% of normal rather than 40% we feared. Whew!

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

This vintage of Ridgecrest Gamay is almost too scarce to mention. By the time you read these notes, it will likely be sold out. But, I would be remiss if I didn't accentuate all the lovely attributes for those of you who get your hands on it. In true Gamay fashion, there are loads of juice fruits, ranging from blood orange to Bing cherry, and Italian plum. The palate is joined together with brambly raspberry, cocoa nibs, freshly turned potting soil, cigar box, and violets. The finish highlights some warm baking spices, silk nap texture, red fruit leather, rose petal, and moderate tannins, with a clean and crisp finish. Gamay, we love your bright wit, we just wish there were more of you to go around. - Wynne

TECHNICAL DATA

AbV - 13.5% | **TA** - 6.6 g/L | **pH** - 3.36

AGING - 9 months 100% neutral French oak | No whole cluster or carbonic maceration

VINES - 55% old vine planted 1985, 45% young vine planted 2019

PRODUCTION - 51 cases

RELEASE - April 2024

ENJOY - NOW - 2039



RIDGECREST

ESTD 1980

A dad, a daughter, and a hill.



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.