

R·STUART & C^o.

..... WINERY

CELEBRATING OVER 20 YEARS

2020 LOVE, OREGON CHARDONNAY

Willamette Valley, Oregon

TASTING NOTES:

COLOR – pale straw, clean

AROMAS – honey crisp apple, fig, pie crust, lemon curd, meringue, and honey

FLAVORS – Meyer lemon, green pear, thai lemongrass, Kefir lime, salted plum, and pineapple

STRUCTURE – bright acidity in the beginning and through the midpalate, a bit of creaminess, but finishes lean

FOOD PAIRING: Charcuterie Board; Quattro Formaggi Pizza; Lobster Roll

VINTAGE: 2020 – what a year! The vintage started off with rain, not to mention a global pandemic. The foundation for a vintage is set in the spring, so when we got a little heatwave in early March, we thought it might be a vintage that provided wines similar to that of 2016. During bloom we had some rain and wind, but lucky for us, it wasn't too bad. The summer followed with relatively cooler weather compared to recent years, which meant that fruit would need more hang time to get to full ripeness. Finally, the heat came and lasted through the first week of September. Then we were surprised with an extreme Easterly wind warning in Oregon at the beginning of September, with some winds measured at 50 mph. The high winds fueled and spread ongoing wildfires and the entire state was covered by a thick plume of smoke (*some areas had hazardous smoke conditions for almost a week*). We appear to be mostly spared from the smoke taint issue and we feel extremely fortunate that our sources of fruit for the most part were not in the direct (*literally*) line of fire.

VINEYARD: This fruit is from the Courting Hill Vineyard, owned by the late Jimmy Leyden. He and his wife, Helen, planted the vineyard in 1983 as a retirement project. It's located near Banks at the northernmost edge of the Willamette Valley. The clones are Dijon 76 and Dijon 96 - both of which tend to ripen early. Since we were looking for very bright acidity, we picked the fruit even earlier than we normally would.



TECH SPECS:

Alc: 11.5%, TA: 8.3,
pH: 2.93, RS: 0.14%

COMPOSITION:

100% Chardonnay

VINEYARD SOURCE:

Courting Hill

AVA: Willamette Valley

CASES PRODUCED: 146