



gc  
WINES

## 2021 Pearlstad Vineyard Chardonnay

**Winery Name:** Grochau Cellars

**Owner/Winemaker:** John Grochau

**Associate Winemaker:** Aurelien Labrosse

**Year Founded:** 2002

**Winery Location:** In the Eola-Amity Hills above Amity, Oregon (Willamette Valley)

**About:** GC Wines Founder John Grochau made his way to wine organically, starting first in fine dining restaurants in Portland, namely the legendary Higgins, and learning to make wine under the guidance of Willamette Valley greats. In 2002, he founded Grochau Cellars, his eponymous wine label, where he could explore the production of food-friendly wines reminiscent of place. More than twenty years later, John has become well known in the Oregon wine industry as a friend, compatriot and community builder. He has lent his expertise to countless winemaking endeavors and prioritized strong relationships with growers across the state. After reflecting on more than two decades in the business, he shortened the name to GC Wines to reflect the brand's evolution from one person's dream to a dream realized and a much bigger family.

**Vineyards:** Pearlstad Vineyard, Eola-Amity AVA.

**Case Production:** 50 cases.

**Vintage:** The 2021 vintage was a unique growing season in the Willamette Valley. The year started much the same as it has for twenty years, with bud break beginning in mid-April. The summer was hotter and dryer than usual, with new record high temperatures in the Willamette Valley. Despite the intense heat, we picked grapes with balanced sugars and acids, giving us wine that is immediately charming, with vibrant fruit and supple textures.

**Winemaking:** Pearlstad Vineyard is located on the west side of the Eola-Amity Hills, and sits on marine sedimentary soils that are only around 2 feet deep. This is entirely Dijon clone 76. We whole cluster press and then ferment in 25% new French oak barrels. The Chardonnay ages on its lees for 15 months before going to tank, then another month in tank before going to bottle.



