

Domaine Drouhin

OREGON

French Soul, Oregon Soil

## 2022 DOMAINE DROUHIN OREGON CHARDONNAY ARTHUR

Drouhin Family Estate Chardonnay, Dundee Hills, OR

**Beginning with the 2019 vintage, Arthur is now a strict barrel selection. As always, Véronique's goal is for Arthur to be equivalent to a premier cru wine.**



**About:** Our Chardonnay Arthur is produced from 100% Dijon clones, grown on the Drouhin Family Estate in the Dundee Hills of Oregon. First planted in 1990, the low yields of these vines and their early ripening ability have been a perfect match for our climate and soils. Arthur, named for Véronique's son, is a wine that captures the bright, crisp acidity and mineral character of the vineyard, balanced with richness and lovely length.

**Winemaking:** Our 2022 Chardonnay was hand-picked into small totes, and then whole-cluster pressed. It was partly fermented in French Oak barrels to reveal the complexity of the fruit through the slow breathing process that happens in wood. The rest was fermented and aged in stainless steel to keep the vibrancy and fruitiness. Véronique then blended these two portions to create a wine of a more delicate nature—Arthur. To Véronique, it's as if one brought together elements of a pure Chablis and an elegant Meursault.



Arthur & Véronique

**2022 Vintage:** The 2022 growing season began with great optimism. After a reasonable winter, bud break started in early April, right on schedule. Then, an unprecedented arctic air mass swept in, bringing snowfall, below-freezing temperatures, and the first-ever frost to impact our vineyards. Subsequent cool and damp conditions over the next few months caused sluggish vine growth, putting us 2-4 weeks behind by June. Mercifully, Mother Nature bestowed abundant sunshine and higher-than-average temperatures on us as harvest approached, resulting in a gentle conclusion to the season and excellent fruit ripeness.

**Véronique's Tasting Notes:** Our 2022 Chardonnay Arthur immediately focuses your attention with a fragrant nose of mandarin peel, vanilla blossoms, and honeysuckle. Nuanced flavors of lemongrass, white flowers, a hint of yuzu, and yellow plum all support the exquisite texture and well-defined structure. Of note: production was much lower than normal in 2022, which is a reflection of vintage conditions and also a testament to Véronique Drouhin's clear quality standards.

### James Suckling-94 Points

*This is complex and layered, with spiced cherries, aged tangerine peel, crushed spices and nutshells. Some licorice notes. Medium- to full-bodied, structured and polished with a firm backbone of very fine tannins and earthy undertones. Lingering finish. Drink or hold.*

### Wine Enthusiast -94 Points - Editors' Choice!

*The 2022 is the best vintage of Arthur that I've tasted. It opens with a baked pear sprinkled in cinnamon aroma, followed by notes of chamomile and chalk. There is weight here to balance with the wine's crisp acidity. Rich lemon preserves, toasted pumpkin seed and saline flavors linger for a long time. — Michael Alberty*

### Vinous-93 Points

*The 2022 Chardonnay Arthur is wonderfully perfumed, blending incense, ground ginger, lemon oils and crushed yellow apples. This model of elegance offers silken textures ushering in pretty ripe peach complemented by tropical citrus and a hint of vanilla bean. A resonance of lime zest and liquid stone lingers as this tapers off with incredible length yet also freshness.*

*Spellbinding, but be aware that production is down by 50% due to the spring frost.*

**Also: John Gilman-93 Points**



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