

# King Estate

**2019**

## WILLAMETTE VALLEY BRUT CUVÉE

King Estate Brut Cuvée is made from 100% estate grown, Biodynamic® grapes that are always the first harvested from our vineyard, picked early when the brix, or sugar content, is low and acidity is high. Brut means dry, and Cuvée can mean both a blend and the first pressed and most desirable grape juice. Similar to the Champagne region in France, the Willamette Valley's cool climate is ideal for growing fruit for sparkling wine.

### TASTING NOTES

Delicate and persistent bubbles offer a refined mousse, opening to aromas of strawberry, cherry, rhubarb, white flowers and lemon zest. Bright acidity lifts the fruit flavors of fresh strawberry, white peach, lemon curd and baked apple on the palate, along with notes of marzipan, pastry, toasted brioche and strawberry shortcake. Four years of development in the bottle has yielded a beautifully balanced wine with nuanced flavors and succulent acidity that culminates in an elegant, complex finish.

### WINEMAKING PROCESS

Fermentation is méthode champenoise. The base wines – Pinot Noir and Chardonnay – are fermented separately in stainless steel until dryness before undergoing a second fermentation en tirage, or in bottle. The wine is then aged sur lie en tirage for 48 months where it develops rich, complex flavors. Following riddling and disgorging, it is finished with a liqueur d'expedition.

### VINTAGE NOTES

A six-year string of unusually hot and dry harvests ended in 2019. A wet and cold winter was followed by a wet and warm spring. After starting off warmer than usual, the growing season saw a few mild frosts during late April, moderating through mid-vintage with fewer than average heat spikes. The vintage will be remembered for the early rains in September and rapid cooldown into October which challenged harvesting decisions. With weather that was cooler and wetter than in recent years, the 2019 vintage was a return to a more classic Oregon harvest.

**Varietals:** 53% Pinot Noir, 47% Chardonnay

**Vineyard:** 100% King Estate

**AVA:** Willamette Valley

**Alcohol:** 12.5%

