

## CHERS AMIS CHARDONNAY

**Our Philosophy** 

Lingua Franca is the exploration of Oregon with an open mind, focused on picking fruit optimally for freshness, tension and complexity—based on the varying conditions of the season and the terroir of individual vineyard blocks which are farmed by organic and regenerative farming principals. The land, the way it's farmed and the quality of the light on east-facing slopes in the Willamette Valley are what shape the wines.

## **Our Team**

Lingua Franca was co-founded by Larry Stone and Dominique Lafon in 2015, inspired by the exceptional vineyard in the Eola-Amity Hills that Larry bought in 2012 and planted in 2013. Thomas Savre, who worked at some of the top domains in Burgundy, is responsible for overseeing the winemaking and farming. He is a master at capturing the character of each vineyard site with every vintage.

**Vintage Notes:** 

A cold and rainy spring led to a late frost that devastated the Chardonnay crop. However, the end of June brought a weeklong heat wave of 95-104 degrees that helped kickstart the period of bloom. July was calm and moderate with little rain. Thankfully, the frost had little effect on Pinot Noir, which has a later start, and less exposure. Bloom came the first week of July, and veraison began on Labor Day weekend, finishing a week later. Picking was expedited due to rain pressure, with Pinot harvest starting at the end of the first week of October and ending on October 20th.



2022 Chardonnay | Chers Amis Willamette Valley Dates Picked: 10/1-10/11 2022 Alcohol: 13.1% pH: 3.4 Suggested Retail: \$75

**Chers Amis Chardonnay 2022** 

White flower and pear aromas make a ripe first impression backed up by the round entry on the palate with a green apple and fresh lemony finish. There is a slight herbaceous note that evolves in the glass, with fresh green herbs and lemon peel, that balance the initial ripe fruit character. It has volume and intensity, but remains vibrant.

**Vineyard Sources** 

Chers Amis this year comes from four different vineyards in three different AVAs, all sharing the same shallow volcanic soils with great vibrancy, tension and delineation. Though some are in Chehalem Mountain, one in Yanhill-Carlton and the other two closer to Eola-Amity Hills, all have exceptional fruit for this vintage that merit the title of Chers Amis, which was confirmed more than once in blind tastings.

## Vinification

Hand-picked and whole-cluster pressed, settled for 24 hours in closed stainless-steel tanks, the wine is then barrel fermented with wild yeast in 16% new, 41% large neutral Foudre of 3,400-liters and 43% old French 600-liter puncheons from diverse coopers. The wines went through spontaneous malolactic fermentation in their cooperage and were left to age sur lie for 11 months. Finally, the wine is assembled in a closed-top stainless-steel tank with its lees for five months prior to bottling.