MARTIN WOODS

‘Top 50 U.S. Wines’

- Decanter 2024 (about Syrah Rocks District)

**‘Winemaker Evan Martin creates an inspiring portfolio.
The wines somehow seem to match Martin’s personality:
complex, lively and seemingly deep beyond their years.’ -Vinous**

Year Founded: **2009**

Region: **Willamette, Oregon**

Founder: **Evan Martin**

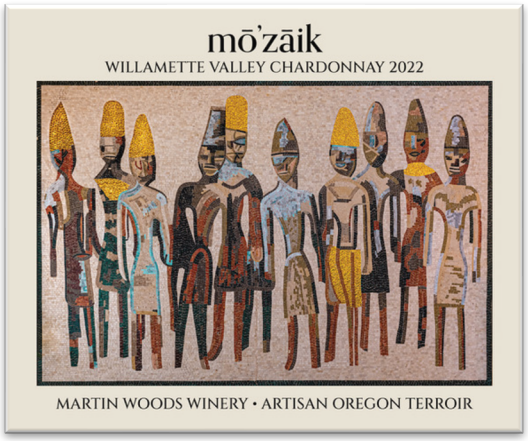
Known for: **Terroir-driven wines that Martin says are meant to be as refreshing as they are representative of where they come from.**

-Organic, Sustainable-

Martin Woods is hidden in the oak-forested foothills of Oregon's Coast Range, within the cool-climate McMinnville AVA, Willamette Valley. Martin Woods is both the home and winery for winemaker/vigneron Evan Martin, who has been driven by a passion since 2009 for discovering the most compelling terroir in Oregon. Elegant Pinot Noir and Chardonnay are the focus of the portfolio, but Riesling, Grüner, Gamay, Cabernet Franc and Syrah are proving exciting for exploration. Evan’s small team farms according to sustainable, wholistic principles and the growers he partners with are of the same mindset. The winemaking methods are delicate and natural, but of greatest importance is that a Martin Woods wine promotes the classic qualities of purity, balance, complexity and fine structure that can only result from great terroir combined with wholehearted dedication to art and craft. Above all, it is the hope that the wines evoke a consistent and inspiring sense-of-place, an authentic Oregon voice.

Martin Woods is known for using Oregon oak barrels to age wines. Martin points out that he is not the first winemaker to embrace Quercus Garryana. “Rick DeFerrari has been making Oregon oak barrels since the 1990s, and a handful of local wineries supported his efforts early on,” Martin said. Martin builds on those earlier efforts by working to determine which grape varieties work best in Oregon oak, how the barrels should be toasted and how long the wood staves should be aged. His work points toward Chardonnay and Syrah being excellent candidates for Oregon oak aging. As for their impact on the wines, Martin described Oregon oak as being “more reductive than French oak. It doesn’t breathe as much and evaporates less water. It’s just a slower evolution for the wine and there’s a tautness, an energy that’s maintained.”

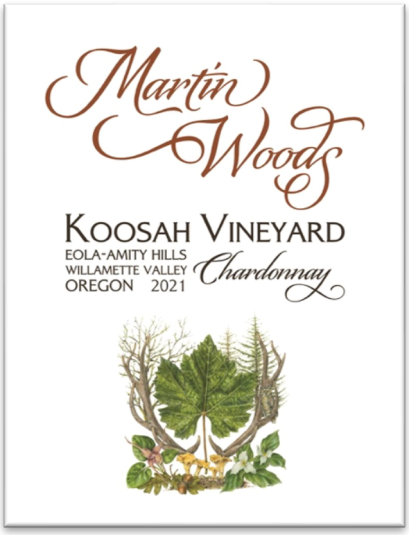
2023 'Mozaik' Chardonnay



We're excited to finally share Mozaik with you- a new project within Martin Woods. Mozaik is a label dedicated to an ongoing exploration of ideas that extend beyond a single vineyard. For this Chardonnay, we focused on a theme of salinity, which is an unmistakable character of Chardonnay grown near the Van Duzer Corridor in the western Willamette Valley, a neighborhood very much influenced by Pacific Ocean air. The 2023 Mozaik represents an effort by way of blending to highlight salinity in concert with perfectly balanced fruit, mineral texture, and classic aromatic profile. Sourced from two distinct sites, Pearlstad Vineyard in the Eola-Amity Hills is our most geologically unique vineyard in the Willamette Valley. The soil is composed of fossilized marine life, creating an especially chalky, mineral-rich texture that drives salinity beyond the windy, marine airflow this neighborhood is most known for. Yamhill Valley Vineyard, just down the road from us here in the McMinnville AVA, is home to our oldest Chardonnay holdings. The south-facing sun-kissed fruit here is concentrated and complex, yet crystalline and precise.

95 Points – Vinous - *"Bursts from the glass with savory herbs, crushed rocks, menthol and lime-laced green apples. It is seamlessly silken in feel, with opulently ripe orchard fruit and nearly glycerol concentration offset by a saline resonance throughout. Spicy notes emerge on the finish, which is incredibly long and full of zesty tension, nearly crunchy in texture. Expertly balanced."*

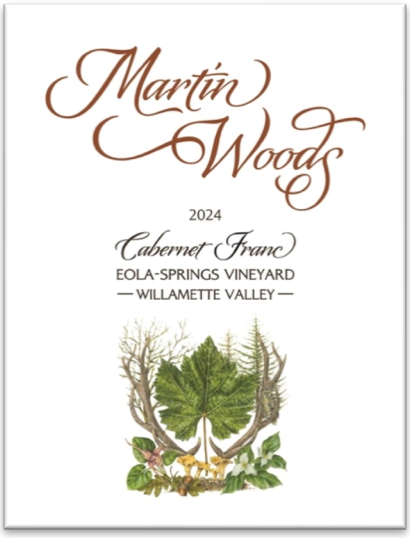
2022 Chardonnay Koosah Vineyard, Eola-Amity Hills



The Eola-Amity Hills is situated to the immediate east of the Van Duzer Corridor, the "air-conditioning" pathway through the Coast Range where marine air enters from the west and cools the Willamette Valley. At the very top elevation of the ava sits Koosah Vineyard–in the Coast Salish dialect the name "koosah" means "beautiful ceiling of the sky". This "magnum opus" project of grower Kevin Chambers is without question one of the most thoughtfully planted (and riskiest) vineyards in the Willamette's history. Whole cluster pressed (oxidative juice handling, no sulfur), overnight settling. Primary fermentation in tank, then stirred and moved (with lees) to barrel. Aged 12 months in French and Oregon cooperage (5% new), then additional 6 months in tank (on lees for 18 months total).

95 Points – Decanter – *"A bolder Chardonnay choice in the Martin Woods portfolio. The floral quality of its aromas balances the somewhat rich mouthfeel of its medium—to full-body palate. With that said, it maintains a vibrant energy and nice overall structure - balanced acidity - featuring notes of stone fruits, crispy apples, lemon peel, and herbs."*

2025 Rosé of Cabernet Franc, Eola-Amity Hills

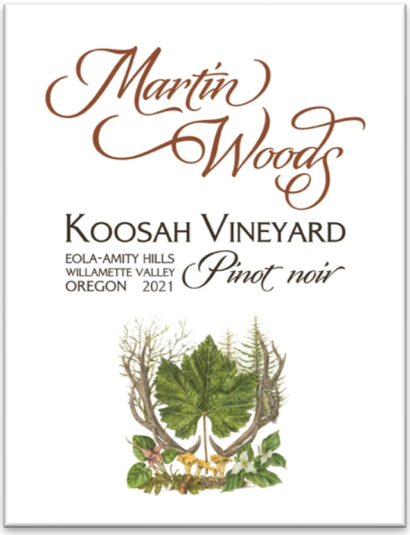


Named #1 Rosé in 2024 – The Wall Street Journal

Inspired by the Cabernet Franc Rosés of Domaine Guiberteau, we were thrilled to have the opportunity to work with some of the sparse Willamette Valley-grown Cabernet Franc vines for the first time in 2024. The cool marine air blowing into the neighborhood at Eola-Springs Vineyard ensured a later harvest date with patient development of flavors, retention of fresh acidity and promotion of spicy/floral aromatics. This rose is both delightful and serious. Chill it and crush it, day or night. Or cellar it for 5+ years with development of increasingly pronounced perfume and nuanced texture.

91 Points – '24 Robert Parker – *"Alluring aromas of flint, red apple, peach and melon. The light-bodied palate is flavorful and bright with a mouth-coating texture and a long finish with a pleasant, kumquat-like bite that makes this ideal for pairing with food."*

2022 Pinot Noir Koosah Vineyard, Eola-Amity Hills



Vineyard Info: see Chardonnay Koosah Vineyard

10% whole clusters layered in small open top fermenters. 25 days total on skins. Once daily punchdowns starting on day 10. Peak fermentation temp 80F. Aged without sulfur for 6 months. Aged without sulfur for 6 months total on lees (no stirring) in 228L French oak barrels (10% new).

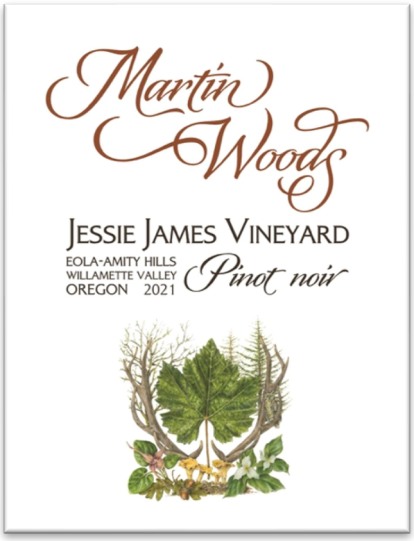
96 Points – Decanter - *"One of the most spice-driven among the Martin Woods releases, with green aromatic notes of mint, rose hip oil and sassafras. This wine has an alpine-like freshness. features bold aromatics yet impressive freshness on the palate, with notes of mint, pine, and green spices on the finish. It is a medium-bodied wine with soft, grippy tannins."*

2024 Pinot Noir Hyland Vineyard, McMinnville

Hyland vineyard is one of the Willamette Valley's historic vineyards, planted in the early 1970s with clonal selections of Riesling, Gewurztraminer and Pinot Noir that originated in Alsace. Hyland is situated on the shoulder of the van duzer gap, the "air-conditioning" pathway through the Coast Range where marine air enters from the west and cools the Willamette Valley. Persistent wind spills over this neighborhood, moderating temperatures and allowing for patient ripening and retention of fresh acidity. 15% whole clusters layered in small open top fermenters. Aged 14 months in 228L barrels, average age 4-5 years (only 5% new oak).

99 Points - #4 - Top 50 Wines of 2025 – Decanter - *"A dazzling Pinot Noir. Brilliantly floral, with spice, a beautiful elegance to the aromatics and a reductive earthiness. Sweet florals, red fruits and wonderful berries on the nose. Mint leaves, earth and savory notes of lavender and lilac. Depth and breadth, finishing with brine that lingers long on the tip of the tongue. The elegance and completeness floor me. Stunning."*

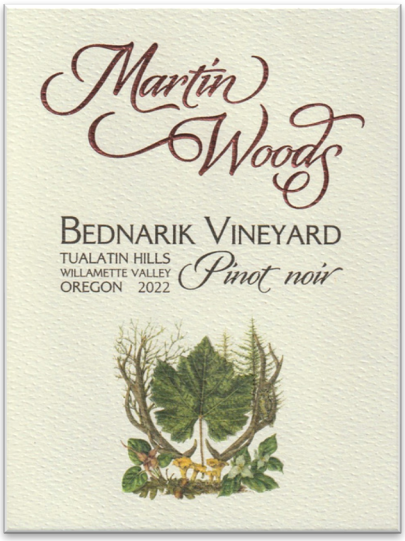
2023 Pinot Noir Jessie James Vineyard, Eola-Amity Hills



The high-density (2,400 vines/acre), four-acre planting of vines at Jessie James is east-facing at high elevation–ripening here is patient and harvest is usually the first week of October. Furthermore, the vineyard is in a rain shadow, allowing the grapes to reach peak maturity with less risk of botrytis rot. The Nekia soil (shallow, rocky volcanic basalt) provides appropriate stress to the plants, resulting in sparse canopies and loose clusters with small berries and thick skins. 10% whole bunches (middle layer) in1.5 ton open top fermenters. 25 days total on skins. Once daily punchdowns starting on day 10. Peak fermentation temps low 80s F. Aged without sulfur for 6 months through malo. 18 months total on lees in 228L French oak (10% new).

98 Points – Decanter – *"Exceptional and offers both finesse and power, reminiscent of Vosne-Romanée in style. Layered and complete with leather, ripe framboise, pressed herbs, mossy earth, and a mineral frame, it's full-bodied, with refined tannins and stunning length. This is possibly the best wine I have tasted from Evan Martin Woods to date."*

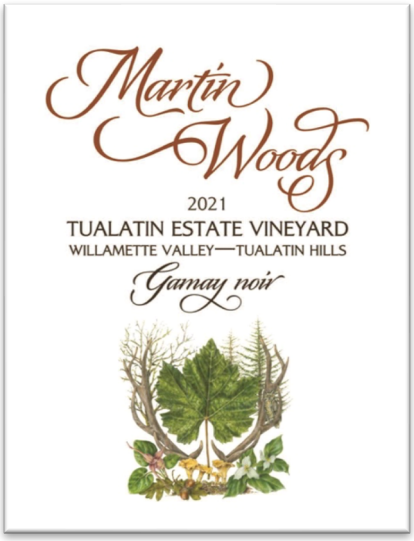
2023 Pinot Noir Bednarik Vineyard, Tualatin Hills



Bednarik vineyard is situated in the far northwest of the Willamette Valley, nestled into the foothills of Oregon's Coast Range near Cherry Grove. The microclimate here is cool and the mature self-rooted vines are patient to ripen. The well-drained marine sediments provide the vines a balanced stress, resulting in naturally-restrained yields, limited canopy growth and lots of air-flow and sun exposure, translating to Pinot Noir with concentrated red fruit and distinctively energetic texture. Bednarik always presents wonderfully expressive floral and spice-driven perfume and the palate becomes increasingly silken with age. We are truly privileged to work with three of the eight total acres at this very special, mature vineyard

96 Points – Decanter - *"Fast becoming a house favorite. Concentrated fleshy red fruits, cinnamon, clove, and allspice aromatics push, says Evan Martin. A long, resonating tannin structure and a smoky clove note interplay wonderfully with the ripe, fleshy fruits. Round and rich, beautifully juicy with pomegranate and red strawberries."*

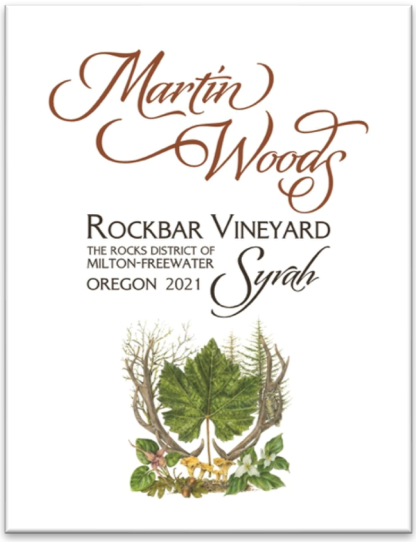
2023 Gamay Tualatin Estate Vineyard, Tualatin Hills



Tualatin Estate is situated in the far northwestern corner of the Willamette Valley, with the coast range mountains to the immediate west creating a strong diurnal shift from warm days to cool nights, preserving mouthwatering acidity. The fine-textured, well-drained Laurelwood soil provides balanced stress to the vines, reducing vine vigor and crop yield. This produces concentrated red fruit, floral aromatics and ripe skin and stem maturity, giving fine structure and rich color. 40% whole clusters layered in small open top fermenters. 23 days total on skins. Once daily punchdowns starting on day 12. Peak fermentation temps 80-82F. Aged 6 months total on lees (no stirring) in 228L barrels, average age 10+ years (0% new oak).

93 Points – Jeb Dunnuck – *"Highly expressive. A fruity aromatic profile in its notes of mixed berries, wildflowers, white pepper, and dusty earth. Ripe and effusive in the glass, it's medium-bodied, with fine, chalky tannins, and while it's lovely and refined, it's still playful. It will drink well over the next 6-8 years."*

2023 Syrah, The Rocks District of Milton-Freewater



'Top 50 U.S. Wines' - Decanter 2024

Tightly demarcated by virtue of a single soil series (Freewater Series) and a single land form (alluvial fan), the Rocks District exists entirely within Oregon, just outside of the town of Milton-Freewater. The soils are composed of cobblestone-size gravels (of volcanic origin) deposited by the Walla Walla River as it exits the nearby Blue Mountains. The extremely well-drained soils encourage vine roots to grow very deep in search of water, allowing interaction with an abundance of mineral-derived nutrients. The cobblestones also absorb solar energy and radiate that heat to both the root and fruit zones, leading to earlier phenological ripening and wines with refined structure. 50% whole clusters sandwiched in small open top 1.5 ton fermenters. 35-40 days total on skins. Once daily punchdowns started at Day 14. Peak temps, 80F-85F. Aged 12 months on lees (7 months without sulfur) in barrels, 6% new oak, then an additional 6 months in tank. Racked carefully and bottled without fining nor filtration.

98 Points - Decanter - *"One of the most exciting domestic Syrahs, this wine beautifully showcases a well-crafted expression of the 'classic' funk of The Rocks. The deep umami notes come from the concentration of flavors in the berries due to the vines' low yields."*

97 Points - International Wine Report - *"A dazzling expression of site and style, bursting with aromatic lift and depth. This vintage cements Syrah from The Rocks District as both singular and world-class in its expression."*

2023 Call & Response Red Wine

This Oregon red blend is a collaboration between Martin Woods and renowned chef and pizzaiolo Chris Bianco. Using our local Oregon grapes, we blended a wine that calls to mind the beauty of fine Sangiovese from Chianti. Call & Response was intentionally crafted to be paired with good food and shared at a table amid conversation, inspiring meaningful connection. In music, "Call & Response" is not only a collaborative style, but a cultural practice connecting the artists as well as the audience. The interaction and dialogue creates rhythm and build energy. When the audience is called, all can participate, regardless of musical skill, becoming part of something bigger than themselves. This wine is a "Call & Response" between a winemaker and a chef. Fresh black cherry and savory spices–sweet fruited, lithe and long–with beautifully integrated fine tannin. Seriously delicious. Enjoy right now or cellar 10 years+.

93 Points – Decanter – *"Designed to be perfect with pizza. it is juicy and fruit driven but still shows hints of spice and minerality. In the words of winemaker Evan Martin 'a wine that's delicious with tomato sauce was really the goal.' Juicy blue and black fruits."*