



# Brooks

*"One of the best wineries in the Northwest" — Cole Danehower*

## Statistics

### COUNTRY

United States

### APPELLATION

Willamette Valley, OR

### FOUNDED

1998

### ESTATE OWNERS:

Pascal Brooks

### WINEMAKER:

Chris Williams

### CASE PRODUCTION

25,000

### FARMING PRACTICES

Biodynamic Farming

## Winery Profile

Of all of Oregon's outstanding wineries, Brooks has one of the the most moving stories. Founded in 1998 by Portland native, Jimi Brooks, the winery was among the first to champion biodynamic farming in the Willamette Valley. In 2002, Jimi passed away, bequeathing his eight-year-old son, Pascal, the winery. When Jimi's sister, Janie Brooks Hueck learned of his untimely passing, she stepped in to the business just as harvest was getting underway. At that point, she had no experience in the wine industry.

Jimi was so loved by other vintners in the Willamette Valley, they pledged see the winery through harvest, shepherding the 2002 vintage into bottle, and beyond. Today the wines are made by Jimi's former assistant winemaker, Chris Williams. Janie is still actively involved in the business and Pascal works harvest as his college schedule allows. The winery has since blossomed to an annual production of 20,000 cases. Guided by a commitment to stewardship of the land, all of the vineyards Brooks' source from are either biodynamically or organically farmed.

The winery is focused on showcasing terroir, which shines through in their single-vineyard Pinot Noir and Riesling bottlings. Their 2014 Temperance Hill Pinot Noir scored an outstanding 93 Points from Vinous reviewer, Josh Reynolds, "Limpid ruby-red. Powerful, mineral- and spice-accented red and dark berry and candied rose scents pick up notes of woodsmoke, vanilla and licorice with air. Sappy, penetrating black raspberry and bitter cherry flavors show excellent depth and focus, and notes of spiced cake and anise add complexity. Becomes sweeter with air and shows impressive precision on the subtly tannic, strikingly long finish, where red fruit and floral liqueur notes linger."

## Varieties

Riesling

Pinot Noir

Pinot Blanc

Pinot Gris

## Website

[www.brookswine.com](http://www.brookswine.com)

*"It's the dry Rieslings from Brooks that really turned my head this year. The wines from this Riesling specialists are some of the best examples of the variety that I have ever had, period, from outside the grape's motherland."*

— Josh Reynolds





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## Critical Acclaim

### 2016 Willamette Valley Riesling

**92 Points**

**Paul Gregutt**

**Wine Enthusiast**

The most affordable and widely available Riesling in the Brooks lineup, this is an especially appealing cuvée in 2016. It's fragrant and inviting, with orange blossom, lemon zest and grapefruit components. That tangy fruit is layered and textural, with a phenolic snap. It's a blend sourced from a number of unspecified old vine sites.

### 2016 Willamette Valley Ara Riesling

**91 Points**

**Paul Gregutt**

**Wine Enthusiast**

This reserve-level wine is priced at the high end of the winery's substantial lineup of Rieslings and sourced from unspecified old vine sites. It offers a fruity mix of Meyer lemon, apricot and peach that's ripe enough to carry the impression of sweetness yet finishes (and is labeled) dry. Drink now and over the next half decade.

### 2015 Eola-Amity Hills Rastaban Pinot Noir

**91 Points**

**Paul Gregutt**

**Wine Enthusiast**

This estate reserve is produced from biodynamic grapes. It's sweet and spicy, with concentrated raspberry fruit, baking spice and hints of toasted coconut. A touch riper than the previous vintage, it's already drinking well.

### 2015 Willamette Valley Janus Pinot Noir

**89 Points**

**Paul Gregutt**

**Wine Enthusiast**

The winery's flagship Pinot Noir, this is a blend from various vineyards. It's full and fleshy, with berry and plum fruit tones. Smooth through the midpalate, it turns granular by the finish, with a light touch of chocolate.

### 2015 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir

**89 Points**

**Paul Gregutt**

**Wine Enthusiast**

This value offering spent almost a year in French oak, and went through native yeast fermentation. The added nuances amplify a full-bodied, cherry-flavored wine, with streaks of clean earth and clay.

### 2015 Willamette Valley Sparkling Riesling

**90 Points**

**Paul Gregutt**

**Wine Enthusiast**

This is the first sparkling Riesling from Brooks, and it's a stunner. With dry, precise flavors, it's dominated by citrus rind notes and suggestions of rocks. It's penetrating and long, with lemon peel highlights throughout the finish.

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