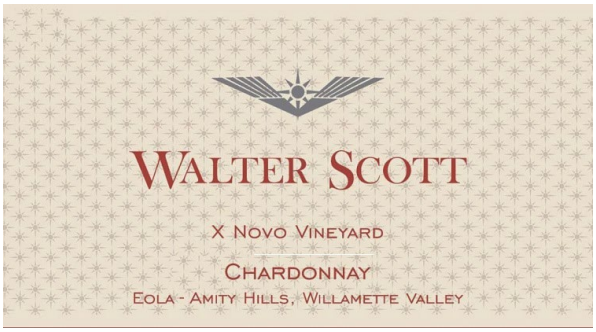
Walter Scott Wines
Eola-Amity Hills

Tasting the 2023s at Walter Scott was the highlight of a long day of tasting. Winemaker Ken Pahlow leaned into the racy nature of the vintage and worked diligently to make sure that the wines would express an undeniable sense of place. The lineup shows more immediacy in this vintage while maintaining crisp acidity and balanced structure—quite a compelling mix...The red wines here have seen a marked improvement over the last few years, as this has always been an estate that set benchmarks with Chardonnay. And yes, the 2023 Chardonnays are simply fantastic. There's certainly a deeper level of fruit intensity, but their overall balance is remarkable. This lineup exemplifies how, broadly, Chardonnay excels over Pinot Noir in 2023. Of note, 2023 was the last vintage where Pahlow had access to fruit from the Justice and Temperance Hill Vineyards. As sad as that is, this lineup is simply an embarrassment of riches. I continue to be thoroughly impressed by this project.

--Eric Guido, July 2025



2023 WHITES

X Novo Vineyard Aligoté, Eola-Amity Hills 2023

In 2018, X Novo Vineyard owner Craig Williams purchased an adjacent vineyard parcel to his original X Novo plantings, which had been planted entirely to Riesling back in 2005. He grafted over the Riesling to both Chardonnay and Aligoté and incorporated this neighboring parcel into a larger X Novo. The Walter Scott Aligoté bottling hails from these vines. Their 2023 version is outstanding and really reminds me stylistically quite a bit of Jean-François Coche's Aligoté from the decade of the 1990s, when I used to drink that wine with quite some frequency. The beautiful bouquet shows just a hint of reduction in its blend of apple, pear, iodine, white flowers, a beautiful base of soil tones and a gentle framing of vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is bright, deep, full bodied and just a touch more reductive than on the nose, with a lovely core of fruit, superb soil inflection, zesty acids and impeccable balance on the long, complex and beautifully precise finish. 140 Fine, fine juice in the making that deserves at least a few years in the cellar to properly blossom. If you choose to drink it young, pop it in a decanter for half an hour before serving. Fine juice. 2028-2050+.

92+ pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

Crushed lime mingles with minty herbs and a nuance of young kiwi as the 2023 Aligoté X Novo Vineyard opens in the glass. Juicy and fruit intense, it is also full of salty tension. The 2023 leaves the mouth watering for more as a hint of green melon and chlorophyll fades through the wickedly fresh finish.

91 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

X Novo Vineyard Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills 2023

The 2023 X Novo Chardonnay is outstanding. The Walter Scott bottling of chardonnay here is crafted from the entire parcel of densely planted vines originally planted by Craig Williams in 2011. As is customary now for this wine, it is raised in three hundred-fifty- and five-hundred-liter puncheons for one year, with eighty percent of the casks new in this vintage. The wine's bouquet is deep and complex, showing a touch of youthful reduction in its constellation of apple, pear, hazelnut, iodine, a gorgeous base of soil tones, white lilies, citrus zest and a nicely done framing of new oak. On the palate the wine is full-bodied, young and focused, with superb depth of fruit, great soil signature and grip, a fine spine of acidity and laser-like precision on the extremely long, perfectly balanced and nascently complex finish. The backend lift here is simply stunning! This is structured like a young grand cru white Burgundy and will demand some extended cellaring before it really starts to blossom. It will be a brilliant wine once it starts to hit on all cylinders. 2032-2065.

96+ pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Chardonnay X Novo Vineyard opens with sweet white smoke nuanced by rosemary, green apples and dusty stone as it slowly blossoms in the glass. Pleasantly forward in style, it sweeps across the palate with elegant waves of ripe orchard fruit while a tinge of flint adds balance toward the close. The finish is dramatically long, laden with a citrus concentration that slowly delves into a sensation of liquid sage.

96 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

Freedom Hill Vineyard Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills 2023

The 2023 vintage of Freedom Hill Chardonnay was barrel-fermented and raised in its customary mix of two hundred-twenty-eight, three hundred-fifty and five hundred liter casks for one year, with fifty percent of the barrels new oak. The wine is beautifully precise and gently reductive in its aromatic constellation of apple, pear, almond, chalky soil tones, a touch of iodine, fruit blossoms and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is vibrant, focused and full-bodied, with superb depth of fruit, lovely mineral undertow, zesty acids and impeccable balance on the long, complex and succulent finish. This is a young wine, but it is not shut down and is already absolutely delicious to drink! But there is even more reward to come for the patient.

94 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

As I have noted that the 2012 vintage was the first that Erika and Ken made wines from Freedom Hill Vineyard, when they produced both a chardonnay and a pinot noir from this fine terroir. The 2022 vintage of Freedom Hill Chardonnay was barrel-fermented and raised in a combination of 228L, 350L and 500L casks for one year, with fifty percent of the barrels new in this vintage. After twelve months in casks, the wine was assembled and finished its élevage in stainless steel tanks for three months. The wine starts out a bit reductive when first poured and takes a bit of swirling to unlock its bouquet, but once it starts to stir, it offers up a superb nose of white peach, apple, iodine, a complex base of sedimentary soil tones, raw almond, apple blossoms and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is bright, full- bodied, focused and complex, with a superb core of fruit, excellent soil signature, a fine spine of acidity and a long, perfectly balanced and vibrant finish. This is very tasty in the first blush of youth, but it is built for cellaring and truly deserves some time to hibernate in a cool dark corner for at least five or six years before having at it in earnest. Great juice!

96 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

The following has also reviewed this wine:

95 pts-Erin Brooks, The Wine Advocate, September 2025

Hyland Vineyard Chardonnay, Willamette Valley 2023

The 2023 Hyland Vineyard Chardonnay from Walter Scott is fermented and raised entirely in three hundred-and fifty-liter casks during its one year of élevage. As I have mentioned before, these chardonnay vines at Hyland are ungrafted and were planted in 1979. The wine saw thirty five percent new oak in 2023. The bouquet is almost delicate in its complexity this year, offering up scents of pear, lemon, almond, a beautiful foundation of volcanic minerality, a touch of orange zest, honeysuckle and a gentle framing of vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is pure, precise and full-bodied, with a superb core of fruit, great mineral undertow, a lovely girdle of acidity and tremendous backend energy and lift on the impeccably balanced and complex finish. This is simply a great young chardonnay! 2025-2055.

95 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Chardonnay Hyland Vineyard slowly evolves with an array of wildflowers, crushed rocks and freshly sliced nectarines. Lovely inner sweetness contrasts with tart citrus and crisp mineral tones as vivid green apple fruit settles on the senses. The 2023 leaves a reverberation of tension and saline concentration, finishing with dramatic length and a pleasantly chewy sensation.

94 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

The following has also reviewed this wine:

94 pts-Erin Brooks, The Wine Advocate, September 2025

Justice Vineyard Chardonnay, Willamette Valley 2023

Like the 2023 Hyland Vineyard chardonnay, the Justice Vineyard bottling was raised solely in three hundred-and fifty-liter barrels, with thirty-five percent of them new in this vintage. Justice Vineyard benefits from the cooling winds that roll through the nearby Van Duzer Corridor. This is one of the more reductive 2023s from Ken this year and decanting for thirty minutes prior to serving is recommended, if drinking the wine in its infancy. Once the wine has a chance to stretch its wings, it is outstanding, wafting from the glass in a mix of apple, white peach, hazelnut, a gorgeous foundation of soil, fruit blossoms, iodine and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is bright, full-bodied, precise and youthfully complex, with beautiful depth at the core, superb soil signature and grip, zesty acids and a long, seamlessly balanced and very, very promising finish. I would definitely tuck the Justice Vineyard chardonnay away in the cellar for three to five years prior to starting in on bottles, as there is so much here yet to unfold! 2028-2050+.

93+ pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Chardonnay Justice Vineyard is savory and intense, bursting from the glass with flinty crushed stones, dusty sage, lime zest and green apple. Pleasantly sweet up front, it displays vividly ripe orchard fruit contrasted by salty minerals and sour citrus tones, coming across as textural yet full of energy. The finish is long and loaded with youthful tension, tapering off with gorgeous inner florals and a tart Granny Smith twang. Simply spellbinding and, sadly, the last vintage of Justice Vineyard from Walter Scott.

96 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

Sojeau Vineyard Chardonnay, Willamette Valley 2023

The Sojeau Vineyard sits up above the Eola Springs Vineyard, in the teeth of the marine winds that sweep in each day through the Van Duzer Corridor, making this one of the coolest vineyards sites in the Walter Scott lineup. As I mentioned last year, this bottling is raised in a combination of three hundred-fifty- and five-hundred-liter puncheons for one year and then finishes its élevage in stainless steel for a few months before bottling. The 2023 vintage here was raised in fifty percent new oak, which is up slightly from the 2022 version. The wine's aromatic constellation is utterly refined, wafting from the glass in a mix of lemon, pear, white flowers, stony 146 soil tones, raw almond, a touch of iodine and a gentle framing of vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied and tightly knit, with a superb core of fruit, fine mineral undertow and grip, lovely acids and a long, well balanced and very, very promising finish. With its cooler microclimate, the Sojeau chardonnay is nicely structured out of the blocks and will need a bit of cellaring time to unfurl. I love the backend lift here! 2029-2050+.

94 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Chardonnay Sojeau Vineyard wafts up with an understated blend of crushed rocks, wildflowers, flint stone and fresh apricots. It washes across the palate, texturally deep, with ripe pit fruits complicated by a hint of sesame and caraway. A salty sensation and tart green apple concentration linger, tapering off youthfully tense and long. While enjoyable today, this possesses a balance that should carry it beautifully through medium-term cellaring.

95 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

The following has also reviewed this wine:

93+ pts-Erin Brooks, The Wine Advocate, September 2025

Cuvée Anne Chardonnay, Willamette Valley 2023

In 2023, the Cuvée Anne chardonnay from Walter Scott includes fruit from the X-Novo Vineyard, in addition to its customary vineyard sources of Justice, Koosah, Sojeau and Witness Tree. The wine is barrel-fermented with indigenous yeasts and raised in three hundred-fifty- and five-hundred-liter casks for one year, prior to blending and four months of finishing élevage in stainless steel. As was the case in 2022, Ken used forty-five percent new oak for the Cuvée Anne in 2023. The wine is lovely on both the nose and palate, with the bouquet delivering scents of apple, pear, almond, a touch of iodine, a lovely base of soil, orange blossoms, honeysuckle and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is crisp, full-bodied, focused and beautifully balanced, with a fine core of fruit, an excellent foundation of soil, good acids and grip and a long, complex and impeccably balanced finish. This is delicious juice! 2025-2045+.

93 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Chardonnay Cuvée Anne opens with a delicate mix of crushed flint stones, white smoke and green apples. The palate is soothingly round, showing a salty mineral tinge up front and a reverberation of zesty acidity as crisp orchard fruits cascade across. Lime mingles with sour melon and a hint of spice as this tapers off with excellent length and supreme freshness.

93 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

The following has also reviewed this wine:

94 pts-Erin Brooks, The Wine Advocate, September 2025

Koosah Vineyard Chardonnay, Willamette Valley 2023

The 2023 Chardonnay Koosah Vineyard wafts up with a beguiling bouquet, as dusty dried flowers and cracked slate give way to lemon oil, nectarine and a lovely air of confectionery spice. Silken in feel, it soothes the palate with tantalizing acidity and ripe citrus-laced fruit, coming across as juicy yet deep and complex. The senses are left saturated in salty concentration as this finishes tightly wound in its youthful state. Full of potential. percentage of new oak used during the élevage, the 2022 Koosah Vineyard chardonnay is the least reductive of these fine single vineyard bottlings this year, so if I was tempted to drink one of the wines in the first blush of youth, I would definitely reach for the Koosah first! Fine, fine juice. 2024-2045+.

97 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

Simply incredible. An intense assemblage of ripe, juicy Meyer lemon brings a depth of fruit to the flinty, saline edges. Aromas of honey, lemon pulp and ocean air balance opulence with the signature Walter Scott mineral intensity. The palate offers fleshy white peaches, rich lemon curd and soaring acidity, all framed by chipped flint and salinity. This steep site is among the highest in the Willamette Valley and is becoming one of the region's top Chardonnay vineyards.

98 pts- Clive Pursehouse, Decanter, June 2025

The following also reviewed this wine:

94 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

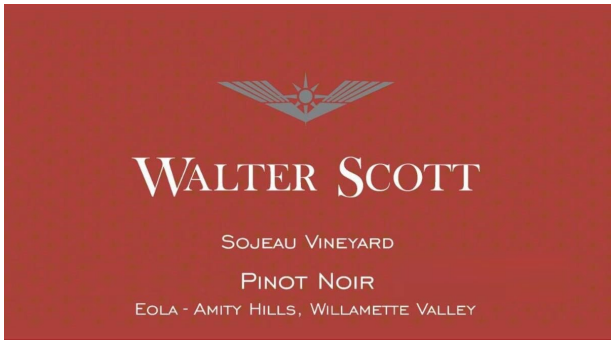
Witness Tree Vineyard Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills 2023

The 2023 vintage is the first single vineyard bottling from Witness Tree that Erica and Ken have produced at Walter Scott. This famous vineyard, originally planted back in 1982, had to be replanted in 2017, due to phylloxera. Walter Scott first started buying fruit from the new production here in 2021 and the vineyard has made the jump into the league of single vineyard site wines here in 2023. The wine was raised in twenty-five percent new oak this year, all in three hundred and fifty liter casks. The bouquet is bright and youthful, offering up a complex blend of apple, pear, a touch of iodine, almond, a lovely base of soil, white flowers and a gentle framing of vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and very elegant in profile, with a lovely core of fruit, superb soil signature, a fine girdle of acidity and impeccable balance on the long, complex and very precise finish. This is a beautiful wine and a fine new addition to the chardonnay lineup at Walter Scott! 2025-2050.

93 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Chardonnay Witness Tree Vineyard is zesty and lifted, with shavings of pine, mint leaf and freshly sliced nectarine. Silken and pliant, it is deeply textural, as wonderfully pure white pit fruit and a nuance of sour citrus mingle on the palate. A salty concentration emerges through the finish, leaving gentle inner tension and a hint of savory spice.

93 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025



2023 REDS

Sojeau Vineyard Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills 2023

The 2023 Sojeau Vineyard cuvée from Walter Scott includes ten percent whole clusters this year. It was raised in thirty-five percent new oak in this vintage and of course, bottled unfined and unfiltered. The cool microclimate of Sojeau, perched up on the top of the ridge in the face of the ocean winds that roll in through the Van Duzer Corridor make for a beautifully precise wine. The bouquet is deep, complex and offers up a lovely combination of red and black fruit in its mélange of black plums, red and black cherries, gamebird, complex soil tones, a nice touch of whole clusters, coffee bean, distant bonfire, a hint of the cola notes to come, peonies, lovely spice tones and cedar. On the palate the wine is pure, precise and full-bodied, with superb depth at the core, lovely soil transparency and grip, ripe, buried tannins, fine acids and impeccable balance on the long, focused and complex finish. Great juice! 2040-2085+.

94+ pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Pinot Noir Sojeau Vineyard blossoms in the glass with sweet violet and lavender tones that complement ripe blackberries as a hint of wet stone joins the fray. Balanced inner sweetness and vibrantly ripe wild berry fruits are guided by cooling acidity. The palate is gently tannic yet long. It finishes with floral persistence and a subtle licorice tinge.

93 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

The following has also reviewed this wine:

93+ pts-Erin Brooks, The Wine Advocate, September 2025

Justice Vineyard Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills 2023

The parcel of pinot noir in the Justice Vineyard that Ken and Erica purchase fruit from lies directly next door to their winery in Salem. Walter Scott shares this parcel of twenty-plus year-old vines with Bethel Heights Vineyard, with each winery taking alternating rows of fruit, so that each one gets a complete portrait of this vineyard in their resulting pinot bottlings. In 2023, this cuvée saw no whole cluster inclusion and was raised for fourteen months in Burgundy barrels, of which forty percent were new oak. The wine comes in at a nicely balanced 13.5 percent octane and is a 162 touch reticent when first opened, but with a bit of air offers up a deep, pure and very classy bouquet of red and black cherries, red plums, woodsmoke, gamebird, a lovely base of stony soil tones, a touch of cardamom and a deft framing of new oak. On the palate the wine is deep, young, full bodied and tangy in personality, with a beautifully sappy core of fruit, lovely soil signature, ripe, buried tannins and excellent focus and balance on the long, nascently complex and vibrant finish. This is going to be an excellent bottle once it is ready to drink! 2037-2085.

93+ pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Pinot Noir Justice Vineyard wafts with savory herbal resonance, as ashen stones and nuances of flint complicate its citrus-tinged black cherry fruit. Ripe red and blue berries wash across the palate, energized by vibrant acidity, while silken textures swirl over a coating of crisp minerality. Citrus notes mingle with grippy tannins, yet the finish is juicy in character as violet pastille lingers for well over a minute. This is a total pleasure to taste and a perfect example of how Walter Scott has taken their Pinot Noir game to a whole new level.

95 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

Koosah Vineyard Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills 2023

The 2023 Koosah Vineyard pinot noir from Walter Scott saw forty-five percent new oak in this vintage, with no whole clusters used. The wine's élevage was done entirely in two hundred- and twenty-eight-liter casks. It comes in at 13.5 percent octane this year and also gets my vote as the most beautiful wine label to be found anywhere! The wine's gorgeous bouquet wafts from the glass in a mix of sweet dark berries, black cherries, coffee bean, a complex base of volcanic soil, hints of the cola to come, cedary oak, violets and a smoky topnote. On the palate the wine is deep, pure and full-bodied, with a beautiful core of fruit, fine soil signature and grip, ripe, well-integrated tannins, tangy acids and impeccable balance on the long, nascently complex and precise finish. This is going to be a superb bottle of pinot noir in due course, but it is classically structured and will demand some extended cellaring before it starts to drink with generosity. 2040-2085.

94 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Pinot Noir Koosah Vineyard mixes dusty florals and dried black cherries with nuances of fresh mint. Soothingly round textures wash across the palate, carrying chalk-laced red and black fruits elevated by brisk acidity. A citrus component emerges through the finish as the 2023 tapers off with admirable length, remaining juicy and crisp. A subtle mineral crunch resonates on the finish. It is impossible to stop at just one glass.

94 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

The following has also reviewed this wine:

94 pts-Erin Brooks, The Wine Advocate, September 2025

Freedom Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley 2023

The 2023 Freedom Hill pinot noir at Walter Scott again included five percent whole clusters this year and was raised in thirty percent were new in this vintage. This sheltered vineyard is one of the warmer ones that Ken and Erica work with for pinot noir, as it is tucked into the hills and shielded from the ocean breezes that funnel through the Van Duzer Corridor. The wine comes in at 13.5 percent octane in 2023 and offers up an absolutely stunning young nose of black cherries, plums, gamebird, coffee bean, a fine base of dark soil tones, campfire, a lovely touch of fresh thyme, spice and a refined framing of cedary oak. On the palate the wine is full-bodied, focused, black fruity and complex, with great focus and grip, a superb core of fruit, lovely soil inflection, ripe, buried tannins, tangy acids and absolutely impeccable balance on the long, complex and youthful finish. This is going to be a brilliant bottle of pinot once it is ready to drink! 2040-2085.

94 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Pinot Noir Freedom Hill Vineyard wafts up with a vibrant mix of black cherries, minty herbs, blood orange and spice. Juicy to the core, it is wildly energetic and fresh, with crisp citrus tones elevating its wild berry fruit. Crunchy and long, it is just lightly structured yet refined, with a cascade of violet inner florals.

93 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

The following has also reviewed this wine:

92 pts-Erin Brooks, The Wine Advocate, September 2025

Witness Tree Vineyard Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley 2023

Not all of the pinot noir in the Witness Tree Vineyard had to be replanted because of phylloxera, so Walter Scott is able to source two blocks of pinot here, with one a newly-planted section and the other still planted to twenty-year-old vines. The wine includes no whole clusters this year and was raised in thirty percent new oak. The 2023 offers up a lovely aromatic constellation of sweet dark berries, black cherries, a touch of anise, a lovely base of dark soil tones, incipient notes of cola, woodsmoke, hints of fresh thyme and a delicate framing of new oak. On the palate the wine is full-bodied, focused and deep at the core, with lovely soil transparency and grip, ripe, well-integrated tannins, lovely balance and a long, complex and still fairly primary finish. This wine has all of the constituent components necessary for a long and lovely life in bottle; all it needs first is some hibernation time in the cellar to properly soften up its tannins. 2039-2085.

93 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Pinot Noir Witness Tree Vineyard blossoms in the glass as dusty lavender mingles with cracked chalk, rosemary and wild strawberries. The palate is soothingly round, with steely mineral tones and rose-laced red berry fruits, while a tinge of white pepper emerges toward the close. Fine-grained tannins add youthful poise and residual acids keep the mouth watering for more as a hint of tart raspberry fades.

93 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

Temperance Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley 2023

Ken and Erica source pinot from Temperance Hill Vineyard from a single block, planted in 1990, that lies in the northeast corner of the vineyard. The organically-farmed vineyard is right in the path of the Van Duzer Corridor and sees plenty of cooling action from ocean air moving in at the close of each day. The 2023 Temperance Hill bottling was raised in thirty percent new oak and included now whole clusters this year. The wine is beautifully red fruity in its aromatic constellation, wafting from the glass in a mix of red and black cherries, incipient notes of beetroot, gamebird, beautiful spice tones, a great base of volcanic soil, a delicate note of distant bonfire, a discreet framing of cedary oak a glorious top note of violets. On the palate the wine is pure, precise and utterly refined, with its full-bodied format sporting a sappy core of fruit, great soil signature, fine-grained tannins, bouncy acids and great focus and grip on the long, complex and seamlessly balanced finish. This is a simply stunning young wine! 2037-2085.

95 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Pinot Noir Temperance Hill Vineyard is aromatically stunning. A wild bouquet of minty herbs and crushed violets wafts up, giving way to wild strawberries and sweet spice. Juicy in character, it splashes across the palate with ripe wild berry fruit and flint mineral tones, while a hint of tangerine adds complexity. Primary concentration coats the palate, with edgy tannins and a sour citrus twang that lingers.

94 pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

X Novo Vineyard Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills 2023

The densely planted vines in the original part of X Novo Vineyard were planted to eighteen different clones of pinot noir and Walter Scott gets the entirety of this fruit for their X Novo bottling. The 2023 version includes no whole clusters and was raised in thirty percent new oak during its fifteen months of cask aging. The wine is stunningly complex on the nose, wafting from the glass in a elegant blend of red plums, red and black cherries, pomegranate, a gorgeous base of soil, gamebird, a touch of cocoa powder, sweet brown spices, roses and a touch of cedary oak. On the palate the wine is deep, pure, full-bodied and beautifully transparent down to its soil, with a great core of fruit, fine-grained tannins, tangy acids, great focus and grip, seamless balance and a very long, precise and nascently complex finish. This will be a magical wine once it is ready to drink! 2042-2085+.

95+ pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The 2023 Pinot Noir X Novo Vineyard slowly evolves, with a whiff of dusty rose giving way to shavings of cedar, dried strawberries and wet stones. A pretty inner sweetness opens on the palate, amplified by juicy acidity as ripe wild berry fruits swirl throughout. Playful yet balanced, the 2023 shows crisp mineral tones mingling with round tannins through a long, wickedly fresh finale. As fun as this is today, it has a structural balance that will allow it to coast effortlessly in the cellar.

94+ pts- Eric Guido, Vinous Media, July 2025

Sequitur Vineyard Pinot Noir, Ribbon Ridge 2023

The site for the Sequitur Vineyard was purchased by Mike Etzel and his wife, Carey Critchlow in 2010. They cleared and planted it all to pinot noir in the following years and have farmed it organically and biodynamically since that time. Walter Scott gets fruit from several different rows in the vineyard, with enough to produce four barrels of pinot noir, with half of the casks new for the 2023 vintage. The wine does not include any whole clusters this year and delivers a beautifully precise aromatic constellation of red and black cherries, plums, a touch of raw cocoa, a lovely base of soil, violets, peonies and a suave framing of gently spicy new oak. On the palate the wine is focused, elegant and full-bodied, with a lovely sappiness at the core, lovely soil inflection and grip, fine-grained tannins, tangy acids and a very long, very pure and impeccably balanced young finish. I love the backend lift here! Superb juice in the making. 2038-2085.

94 pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025

The following has also reviewed this wine:

93+ pts-Erin Brooks, The Wine Advocate, September 2025

Cuvée Ruth Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills 2023

Ken Pahlow's 2023 Cuvée Ruth bottling of pinot noir is also from a mix of vineyard sources, but with all of them lying within the Eola-Amity Hills AVA. These include Bracken, Koosah, Sojeau, Temperance Hill and X Novo vineyards. The wine is barrel-fermented with native yeasts and raised solely in Burgundy casks for ten months prior to assemblage. Forty percent of the barrels were new this year and the wine is bottled unfined and unfiltered. The wine is beautifully expressive on the nose, wafting from the glass in a mix of red and black cherries, red plums, gamebird, woodsmoke, raw cocoa, a lovely base of soil, a dollop of fresh herbs, rose petals and a gentle framing of cedary oak. On the palate the wine is deep, pure and full-bodied, with a lovely core of fruit, fine soil undertow, bouncy acids, fine-grained tannins and a long, beautifully balanced and complex finish. This is a lovely wine in the making. 2035-2075+.

92+ pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2025