

# Cottonwood

## WINERY of OREGON

Winemaker: Aaron Lieberman

Owners: Phil Lieberman and Aaron Lieberman

While earning his Master's degree in Agricultural Economics at UC Berkeley in the 1960's, Phil began what would become a lifelong interest as he made frequent road trips to check out the fledgling Napa Valley wine scene. He headed north in 1970, eventually purchasing the small farm near Central Point in southern Oregon where Aaron grew up. In the 1980's Phil moved to the Portland area, where he spent two decades as an economic advisor and accountant. Unable to resist the call of the land, in 1994 he purchased a 20-acre farm in the Eola Hills near Salem.



Meanwhile, Aaron graduated from Oregon State University with a Soil Science degree and spent three years in Guatemala with the Peace Corps. When he returned, he found his soils background a good fit with the growing wine industry. He began work at Amity Vineyards in 1996. Aaron and Phil planted a small experimental vineyard at Phil's place and began making small batches of wine. Over the next six years Aaron managed several notable vineyards in the Willamette Valley and began to explore the cellar side of the industry. By 2003 he was Assistant Winemaker at Owen Roe. In 2008, he joined Iris Vineyards as Winemaker while continuing as Winemaker for Cottonwood.

As they developed their own wines, Phil and Aaron decided to skip expanding the vineyard and focus on wine production instead. Crafting just 1,500-2,000 cases per year, they specialize in small lots of fine Pinot noir, Syrah, and Sauvignon blanc from select Northwest sites, including the small home vineyard. They also offer very limited production sparkling wine, Estate Müller Thurgau, Estate Tempranillo, Estate White, and Estate Red. The winery is named for an unusual grove of black and grey cottonwoods on the home vineyard property.

[WWW.COTTONWOODWINERY.COM](http://WWW.COTTONWOODWINERY.COM)

