

## Ghost Hill Cellars Storylines

Here are some of the most delicious and haunting tales about the winery in 2024.

### **How to Preserve a 118-Year-Old Family Farm in the Heart of Willamette Valley.**

The enterprising Bayliss family has tended everything from cows and sheep to oats, barley, crimson clover, and Pinot Noir on their farm since 1906, but the economics have always been grim for small-scale ag operations. With their modern new tasting room perched on the top of Savannah Ridge, they're hoping wine hospitality and events might be the secret weapon they need to keep this fifth-generation family farm in the family for another generation.

### **Where Old Willamette Valley Meets New Willamette Valley. (The Views Are Incredible.)**

The Bayliss family started a dairy farm in 1906. They opened an Instagram-ready wine tasting room and event space in 2024. Meet the family who has weathered 118 transformative years on this land, and kept the farm alive by leaning into the change.

*"You just kind of go with what you think will make some money, or what you care about. Something that you're comfortable with, that you grow or raise."*

*- Mike Bayliss on how a farming family decides where to pivot.*

### **When Ken Wright Wants Your Farm, You Know You've Got Something Special.**

In the late 1990s, Michael Bayliss asked Ken Wright if he thought wine grapes would grow well on his farm's sloping hillside. Wright responded, "Yeah. How much do you want for it?" Bayliss explained he was not selling; he was wanting to go into the wine industry as a way to preserve the property for future generations. So, Ken Wright bought the property next door and turned it into Abbott Claim Vineyard with Tony Soter. Ken has since leased property from Bob Laughlin, just north of the Bayliss-Bower vineyard which is known as Bonnie Jean Vineyard. Discover Ghost Hill Cellars, the single-vineyard site that got away... still proudly owned today by the Bayliss-Bower family.

### **Gold Rush Ghosts, Fairy-Tale Views, and Phenomenally Delicious Wines.**

Legend has it that in the late 1800s, a gold prospector on his way to sell his bounty in Portland stopped to camp at the top of a wooded hill, just west which is now known as Oak Springs Farm Road. In the dead of night, a robber attacked and killed him and his horse, stealing away with the gold. Some say the miner's ghost still wanders the hill in search of his stolen treasure, but today's wine lovers know the true treasure is poured at the Ghost Hill Cellars tasting room just across the road. Soaring 360-degree views, warm hospitality by the Bayliss-Bower family, and wines crafted by living legend Eric Hamacher make this a favorite stop for wine lovers in search of a truly memorable Willamette Valley experience.