

Blue Grouse Estate Winery Timeline

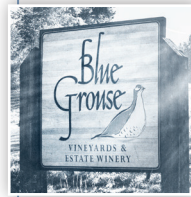
1920s - PRESENT

1920s



- First commercial wineries appear on Vancouver Island near Victoria making wine from loganberries

1992



- Blue Grouse Estate Winery receives its license to operate a winery, retail store and sell its wines. This is the second license issued on Vancouver Island.

1983

THRU
1990

- The Duncan Project comes to life on the Zanatta Farm in the Cowichan Valley, when the BC Land Commission agrees to fund testing of wine grapes on Vancouver Island. Over a seven-year period, more than 100 varieties were trialed before the BC Government withdrew funding.

1993

- The Blue Grouse Estate Winery retail shop and tasting room open in the basement of the Kiltz house on the estate.

2000

- The Kiltz family builds a new winery on the property and moves its wine making component out of their basement.

1984

- Bitec Development Corporation announces plans to raise \$1.5 million for an estate winery in the Cowichan Valley. The project, (situated on what is now the Blue Grouse Vineyard), was managed by John Harper, a well-known and respected viticulturist from the Fraser Valley.

2012

- The Brunner family falls in love with Cowichan Valley and buys the Blue Grouse Estate, deciding to make it home.

1985

- Bitec fails to raise the money. The project is taken over by Westwood Vineyards, which used federal funding from a Scientific Research Tax Credit program, but also fails.

2013



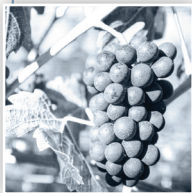
- The Blue Grouse brand is revitalized.

2015

- A new, modernized winery and tasting room are open to the public. Also, Blue Grouse releases its first Estate sparkling wine - 2012 Paula Sparkling.

1986

THRU
1988



- John Harper plants over 100 varieties of test vines on the Blue Grouse property.

2016

- The remodeled Grouse House with "Bed & Bottle" accommodation are now available at the estate.

2017

- Blue Grouse plants its first new vineyard in 20 years, with a focus on Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris, that will double the size of the current vineyard.

1988

THRU
1989

- Dr. Hans Kiltz and his wife Evangeline purchase Westwood's test farm. They discover the experimental vines already growing, and name their project the Blue Grouse Vineyard. Hans, a trained scientist, made a varietal selection based on what he thought would ripen in the Cowichan Valley. In 1989, the first grapes were harvested and sold to home winemakers.

2021

- Blue Grouse plants 20 more acres focusing on Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris, Chardonnay, Gamay Noir and Pinot Meunier.

2021

- The Brunner family purchased 43 acres and large equestrian barn approx. 1.5 km North of the established winery.

2022

- Second and third-generation Jackson family members Katie Jackson, Julia Jackson, Chris Jackson, Hailey Jackson-Hartford Murray, and MacLean Hartford purchase Blue Grouse Estate Winery and its vineyards. The family sees tremendous potential in Cowichan's cool-climate maritime winegrowing region and plans to embolden the Pinot Noir and Chardonnay path that the Brunner family set in motion.

1990

THRU
1995

- The Kiltz family expands the vineyard to approximately four hectares (~8 acres) with imported vines from France and Germany. Some of the last Pinot Noir vines imported into Canada before the Canadian government placed plant importation restrictions ended up on the Blue Grouse Estate.

