

2015 'SOUTH SALEM HILLS CUVEE' PINOT NOIR

WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON

Cases produced: 252
Appellation: Willamette Valley, Oregon
Vineyard sites: St. Jory, Willow Creek, Hyllo and Delaney Vineyards
Blend: 100% Pinot Noir
Fermentation: Closed top fermentation with circulations two-three times per day
Final #s: Alcohol 14.1% - TA 5.9 g/L - pH 3.50
UPC: 768154231526

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The 2015 vintage was long and warm which made for excellent ripening conditions for Pinot noir at all of our vineyards sites in the South Salem Hills. The bulk of this blend comes from our beautiful St. Jory Vineyard – a consistent producer of bold-styled Pinot. Parcels of Willow Creek, Delaney and Hyllo help to flesh out the mid-palate, and contribute additional smoky notes and flavors of cherry and blackberry. This wine was aged in French oak for 14 months before bottling allowing tannins to soften and create a more complete wine profile. Drink now or cellar 2-4 years for a softer finish, and a more robust nose.

VINEYARD NOTES

Vineyard practices are the leading factor in high quality fruit, and the vineyard management follows a strict regime. Shoot thinning is performed early in the year; after fruit set, leaves are removed in the fruit zone on the east side of the vines. Later, the clusters are counted and thinned to a maximum of 28 clusters per vine. Once the grapes have achieved 75% color, a final cluster thinning is performed to remove any green or second crop clusters. The average yield is 2 tons per acre.

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