

LANGE

ESTATE WINERY & VINEYARDS

PINOT NOIR

2016 FREEDOM HILL VINEYARD



THE VINTAGE

Similar to the last two vintages, the 2016 growing season pushed the envelope for defining the new normal in Oregon as one of the earliest on record. An unusually warm spring gave way to moderate summer conditions, which provided even growing conditions through véraison. Though it was an intense growing season due to the early start, the fruit produced resulted in wonderful concentration and complexity with characteristic natural acidity. Summer provided average conditions with fewer heat spikes than either the 2014 or 2015 vintages, leading to smaller berry size and a higher concentration of flavors, depth and intensity.

THE VINEYARD

This Pinot noir is a blend of fruit from Lange's longtime vineyard partner - Freedom Hill Vineyard, which is planted to marine sedimentary soil. Don, Wendy and Jesse Lange have sourced fruit from the Dusschee family since 1990 and began making its namesake single-vineyard Pinot Noir in 1996. The warm days and cool nights allow for complete fruit ripening while maintaining essential acid balance. The result is a structured and age-worthy wine.

THE WINEMAKING

Throughout the growing season, Winemaker Jesse Lange works closely with vineyard partners to taste for maturity and ripeness to determine the exact moment to pick. Featuring clones Wädenswil, Pommard, 777, 667 and 115, these grapes were hand-picked, hand-sorted, and carefully vinified in small lots. This wine was fermented separately by block, allowing the Langes to better understand the wines and how they should be presented. Only free run juice was collected and aged entirely in French oak barrels (40% new French oak).

WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES

The 2016 Freedom Hill Pinot Noir shows a nose of brambly earth, pomegranate, huckleberry and cigar box spice. A hint of tobacco precedes a round, velvety palate showing blueberry compote, candied cherry, vanilla and licorice - all balanced by fine tannins, elegant acidity and a finish that lingers.

ACCOLADES

96 Points - JAMES SUCKLING

93 Points, "Cellar Selection" - WINE ENTHUSIAST

VARIETAL: 100% Pinot Noir

APPELLATION: Willamette Valley

PRODUCTION: 450 cases

ALCOHOL: 14.1%

RETAIL: \$70.00

