

Brittan Vineyards

2014 PUNCHEON PINOT NOIR

Winemaker Robert Brittan, a wine industry veteran with over 45 harvests under his belt, has always had a passion for Pinot noir; a love affair that began in the 80's when he made several vintages under his Britt Hill label with fruit from Carneros. In 2004, Robert decided to leave Stags' Leap Winery in Napa and start a Pinot noir project in the cool climate of the North Willamette Valley.

NOTES ON "THE PUNCHEON"

Each vintage, Robert Brittan ferments small lots of Pinot noir from each of our single blocks in open-top "puncheons," custom-built 500L French oak barrels standing on end with one of their heads removed. The final cuvée is meticulously assembled from these lots, producing a complex and intriguing wine of great depth, complexity and longevity.

VINTAGE NOTES

Winter in 2014 was non-existent, resulting in an earlier than normal bud break. Ideal conditions during bloom led to a large fruit set for the Willamette Valley. Luckily, the weather during the season cooperated and the vines could handle a slightly larger crop load, which for the Brittan Vineyard, meant about two tons per acre. The mornings were quick to heat up and the nights slow to cool down. It is quite rare to have a vintage with both quality and quantity, but 2014 turned out to be exactly that. These rich wines show the finesse, restraint and buoyancy of great winemaking in a great year.

TASTING NOTES

The 2014 Puncheon Pinot noir could only come from our coast range hillside... a singular wine with aromas of ash, fermented tobacco, sweet dark fruits, plum, cardamom and marigold petal. The vibrant, youthful palate is tremendous juicy with just a hint of sweet oak, loads of acid, a substantial, complete midpalate and broad, lengthy finish. Dark, intense, savory.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 91 cases

SELECTION: 667, 777, Pommard, Swan

ELEVAGE: 12 months in once-filled French oak

DATE BOTTLED: December 14, 2015

ALCOHOL: 14.2%

SRP: \$75/ 750 mL

