

Brittan Vineyards

2019 BASALT BLOCK PINOT NOIR

Winemaker Robert Brittan, a wine industry veteran with the experience of over 45 harvests, has always had a passion for Pinot noir; a love affair that began in the 1980'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 northern Willamette Valley.

BLOCK NOTES

The Basalt Block, a seven-acre south-facing bowl at the heart of our hillside vineyard, is planted primarily to Pinot noir selections 777 and Pommard. This part of the vineyard has the most exposure to the ancient, fractured marine basalts that underlie the entire property. Direct interaction between vine roots and base geology produces the truest expression of site: in our case, savory, mineral-driven, red-fruited wines with pronounced acidity.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2019 vintage was the coolest since 2015: warm during the main part of the growing season but cooling significantly towards harvest. We achieved ripe flavors and fruit maturity without the concentrated sugars and higher alcohols associated with late season heat events. These cooler, longer maturing vintages often give us more finesse in flavor and structure and more complexity in aromatics.

TASTING NOTES

The 2019 vintage of Basalt Block Pinot Noir offers aromas of cranberry, raspberry and a slate of baking spices like cinnamon and allspice, continuing with uplifted red fruits including juicy pomegranate on the palate. The balanced oak profile is persistent from the mid-palate through to the finish. Drink now through 2032.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Estate Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 140 cases and 18 magnums

SELECTIONS: 777, 667, Pommard

ELEVAGE: 15 months in French oak, 23% new

DATE BOTTLED: March 10, 2021

ALCOHOL: 13.1%

SRP: \$65/ 750 mL, \$140/ 1.5 L

