

# *Brittan Vineyards*

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## 2019 HERITAGE 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 3.5 acre Heritage Block, situated on the small southeast facing ridge above Gestalt, is planted to the Calera, Mt. Eden, Swan, Pommard and Wädenswil selections of Pinot noir, the 'heritage' selections of California and Oregon. Shallow volcanic soils sit atop ancient basalts and, at higher elevations, a thin layer of compacted marine sediments. The vines are more protected from the Van Duzer winds than Basalt and should enjoy additional hours of ripening as well. While still early in the block's evolution, we expect profound, generous wines full of rich, dark fruit.

### **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**

Our inaugural vintage of Heritage Block Pinot Noir is dark and brooding, with generous aromas of blueberry compote, black cherry, blackberry and hints of vanilla and bramble. The wine is broad in the front and flows seamlessly across the palate. A promising first vintage from this new block. Drink now through 2030.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Estate Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 77 cases and 18 magnums

SELECTIONS: Calera, Mt. Eden, Swan, Pommard, Wädenswil

ELEVAGE: 15 months in French oak, 25% new

DATE BOTTLED: March 10, 2021

ALCOHOL: 13.2%

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

