

Brittan Vineyards

2016 “THE PUNCHEON” 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.

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

2016 was the third vintage in a row in the Willamette Valley where flowering started earlier than normal, and the weather remained warm throughout the growing season. After a warm summer, the last ten days of the growing season gave us beautiful days in the low 70’s, making for an easy and unhurried harvest. The grapes exhibited ripe flavors, but with more restraint and elegance as we get better and better at handling warmer growing conditions.

TASTING NOTES

The 2016 Puncheon Pinot Noir expresses notes of blueberry, raspberry, herbal blackberry and dried cherry alongside white pepper, baking spice, blood orange zest and fennel. This complex, savory wine is beautifully balanced with firm, bright acidity and an elegance and roundness on the palate. Ripe fruits and a complex earthiness linger in the long finish.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Estate Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 66 cases and 18 magnums

SELECTION: Pommard, 777, Swan, 115

ELEVAGE: 12 months in once-filled French oak

DATE BOTTLED: December 12, 2017

ALCOHOL: 14.2%

SRP: \$75/ 750 mL, \$160/ 1500mL

