

Brittan Vineyards

2019 GESTALT 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 Gestalt Block, a two-acre parcel planted primarily to Pinot noir selection 115, occupies the southwest flank of our hillside. The vines here are planted in shallow topsoil underpinned by a young, dense layer of intrusion basalt, and yield less than one ton of fruit per acre. The small, thick-skinned berries (a product of the Van Duzer winds) produce wines with a dark fruit core and pronounced phenolic intensity that showcase the essence of the vintage.

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 Gestalt Block Pinot Noir has a concentrated core of dried blueberry, preserved cherry and cassis, providing a richness on the front palate that is unusual for this block. Hints of crushed herbs and savory spices provide a foil for the wine's rich, dark fruit. As always with our Gestalt Pinot, substantial tannins are present here, but are well moderated and developed.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Estate Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 147 cases and 18 magnums

SELECTION: 115

ELEVAGE: 15 months in French oak, 30% new

DATE BOTTLED: March 10, 2021

ALCOHOL: 13.2%

SRP: \$65/ 750 mL, \$140/ 1500 mL

