

Brittan Vineyards

2019 ESTATE SYRAH

Winemaker Robert Brittan developed a love for Rhône varieties during his first visit to the Northern Rhône Valley in the early 1980's. Captivated by the cool climate Syrahs from Cornas and Côte-Rôtie and intrigued by the cool, windy climate in McMinnville, Robert was encouraged to explore how Syrah would express itself on his rugged, exposed hillside.

VINEYARD NOTES

The Brittan Estate Vineyard lies just 12 miles southwest of McMinnville, tucked into the foothills of the Coast Range. The original 18 acres were planted in 2001, but due to the challenging nature of this site and limited topsoil, only eight acres survived. Since 2004 when Robert and Ellen purchased the vineyard, it has been an ongoing rehabilitation project, including the replanting of the Pinot Meunier blocks to Syrah in 2005. There are now two and a half acres of Syrah on site.

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 2019 Estate Syrah opens with aromas of olive brine, black pepper, cigar box and blueberry with generous blackberry compote, huckleberry, savory plum and orange rind on the palate. A hint of vanilla from the well-integrated oak makes an appearance on the finish. Consider pairing this with spicy fare like merguez sausage and lentils or bar-b-que. Drink now through 2038.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Estate Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 127 cases and 12 magnums

SELECTIONS: 174, 470, 870

ELEVAGE: 15 months in French oak, 35% new

DATE BOTTLED: March 10, 2021

ALCOHOL: 12.5%

SRP: \$50/ 750 mL, \$110/ 1500mL

