

# *Brittan Vineyards*

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## 2021 CYGNUS BLOCK PINOT NOIR

Winemaker Robert Brittan, a wine industry veteran with the experience of over 50 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 three-acre, east facing Cygnus Block was planted in 2008 to the low-yielding Swan Selection of Pinot noir. Unlike the rest of the vineyard, rows here are planted in an east/west orientation giving the block a different exposure to the sun and reducing the influence of the Van Duzer winds. This block's unique aspect, orientation, and selection create fresh, balanced, seamless wines brimming with red fruits.

### **VINTAGE NOTES**

The 2021 vintage, despite some challenges, produced wines with intensity and richness. A mild winter was followed by a warm and dry spring. Summer brought warm temperatures with occasional heat spikes, including the June heat dome that caused some stress in the vineyard. Yields were significantly lower than normal, with some blocks producing less than one ton per acre. Harvest began on September 17 and continued into early October, resulting in wines with good balance and acidity.

### **TASTING NOTES**

The 2021 vintage exhibits traits typical of the Cygnus Block: gorgeous red fruits and an initial platform of sweetness that extends through the palate. Aromas of native wild strawberries, Bing cherries, black cardamom and Earl Grey tea permeate, while subtle floral notes on the front of the palate lead to savory nuances in the mid-palate and finish. Enjoy now through 2036.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Estate Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 121 cases and 42 magnums

SELECTIONS: Swan

ELEVAGE: 10 months in French oak, 26% new

DATE BOTTLED: September 20, 2022

ALCOHOL: 12.8%

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

