

# 2019 DIJON CLONE *Pinot Noir*

## VINTAGE FACTS 2019

A relatively mild, early winter in 2018 was followed by a cold and wet second half of winter in 2019 and then a wet but warm spring. The growing season saw a few mild frosts during late April, but started off warmer than average, moderating through mid-vintage with fewer-than-average heat spikes. The vintage will be remembered for the early rains in September and rapid cool down into October which challenged harvesting decisions. Degree-day totals for 2019 ended up similar to 2012 and 2018, marked by the lowest heat accumulation experienced in September and October since 2007. Phenological timing and interval lengths were similar to observations in 2018 averaging April 16th for bud break, June 8th for bloom, August 14th for véraison and September 27th for harvest. The cool vintage came largely from substantially lower maximum temperatures while minimum temperatures were near-average to slightly above-average.

*Courtesy of Gregory V. Jones, Linfield College Evenstad Center for Wine Education.*

## WINEMAKING NOTES

The stylistic vision is pure Pinot Noir fruit with a soft, juicy mouthfeel, balanced oak and soft, sweet, ripe tannins. The methodology includes attention to detail from vineyard to bottle. Picked at peak ripeness, the fruit was gently destemmed, with approximately 70% of the berries remaining intact for intra-berry fermentation, which adds lively fruit-forward characteristics. Prior to fermentation, the must underwent a five day prefermentation cold soak providing improved complexity, color and mouthfeel. On the fifth day, the must was inoculated with commercial yeast. After 8-12 days of fermentation in small fermenters, punched down by hand, the must was pressed out and allowed to settle in the tank overnight. The new wine was barreled with light, fluffy lees where it underwent malolactic fermentation.

## HISTORY OF DIJON CLONE PINOT NOIR

Founder & CEO Jim Bernau traveled with the Oregon Governor's Delegation to Burgundy in the 1980s to seek out French clones to improve our state's wine quality. These vines quarantined at Oregon State University before being propagated for use in Oregon vineyards. Planting these naturally-derived Dijon Clones from France in the Willamette Valley was one of the greatest tipping points in Oregon wine quality.



## TECHNICAL DATA

**Grape Type:** Pinot Noir

**Clones:** 113, 114, 115, 667, 777

**Appellation:** Willamette Valley

**Soil Type:** Jory (iron rich volcanic), Nekia (shallow iron rich volcanic), Laurelwood (windblown, glacial loess) including Pisolites and Missoula Flood sediment

**Harvest Date:** Sept. 19 – Oct. 15, 2019

### Harvest Statistics

- **Brix:** 24.0°
- **Titrateable Acidity:** 6.45 g/L
- **pH:** 3.42

### Finished Wine Statistics

- **Alcohol:** 13.5%
- **Titrateable Acidity:** 6.32 g/L
- **pH:** 3.57
- **Sulfate Level:** low

**Fermentation:** Small bins

**Barrel Regimen:** 9 months in barrel, 12% new French oak, 88% neutral

**Bottling Date:** September 18, 2020

## TASTING NOTES

A classically-styled Willamette Valley Pinot Noir, the wine offers a fruit-forward nose of ripe red cherry, raspberry and cranberry accented by baking spice and red clay earth. The palate is juicy and round with a medium-bodied silky texture, flavors that mirror aromas with the addition of sweet barrel toast, and balancing acidity that retains the wine's vibrancy.

**Peak Drinkability:** 2021 – 2026

## FOOD PAIRINGS

Enjoy with cedar-plank salmon, chicken marsala, herb-crusted pork tenderloin, wood-fired flatbreads and fresh pastas with mushrooms.

