

WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS

Building a Dream

In 1983, with the encouragement from winemakers making their move from California, Oregon native and Founder Jim Bernau cleared away an old pioneer plum orchard in the Salem Hills, hidden underneath scotch broom and blackberry vines. Unable to afford drip irrigation, he watered them by hand using 17 lengths of 75' garden hose. His dream was to make Pinot Noir that would be a classic, elegant representation of the Willamette Valley growing region. A combination of determination and extraordinary people has brought Willamette Valley Vineyards from a bold idea to one of the region's leading wineries, earning the title "One of America's Great Pinot Noir Producers" from *Wine Enthusiast*.



Stewardship of the Land

All of our vineyards are certified LIVE (Low Input Viticulture and Enology) and Salmon-Safe. Each year we release rehabilitated owl and kestrels from the Cascade Raptor Center for natural pest management and support native bee populations with custom-made mason bee boxes installed at our vineyards. We pioneered the use of Rainforest Alliance and Forest Stewardship Council® Certified corks in our bottles. To reduce our carbon footprint and promote energy independence, all company tractors and delivery vehicles run on biodiesel. Additionally, our Estate Vineyard is wind and solar powered, which has the same environmental impact as not driving 739,488 miles each year.



A Sense of Place

Our terroir is unique with ancient volcanic, glacial and sedimentary flood soils on slopes where orientation, elevation and grade create ideal growing conditions. Our approach is to grow, by hand, the highest quality fruit using careful canopy management and to achieve wines that are truly expressive of the varietal and the place where they are grown.



Tualatin Vineyard, established in 1973, is one of the oldest and most respected vineyards in Oregon's Willamette Valley. Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from Tualatin took Best of Show for both the red and white categories at the London International Wine Competition in the same year, a feat unduplicated in the competition's history. Covered in Laurelwood soil, the slope is south-facing with an elevation of 250-530 feet.

Planted in 1983 by Founder Jim Bernau on the south-facing volcanic flow, the Estate vineyard has 65 acres of vines planted at 500 to 750 in elevation. The first Dijon clones were grafted in 1993. The Nekia and Jory soils are well drained to a depth of one and a half to six feet.

In 2006, *Wine & Spirits* listed Elton Vineyard as one of the five key vineyards in the Eola-Amity AVA. Planted in 1983, the vineyard includes 60 acres on east-southeast slopes of the Eola Hills. The elevation rises from 250-500 feet and the vineyard soil is iron-rich Jory.



Tualatin Vineyard | Forest Grove



Willamette Valley Vineyards | Turner



Elton Vineyard | Hopewell

