

ERATH

WINERY

the Art of Pinot



APPELLATION
Eola-Amity Hills

VINEYARDS
Willakia Vineyard

CLONE
115

HARVEST
September 17

ALCOHOL
13.5%

T.A.
0.67 gm/100mL

pH
3.56

BARREL REGIME
15 months, 100% French oak,
40% new

CASES PRODUCED
214 FCE

2016 Willakia Vineyard Dijon Clone 115 Pinot Noir

“Wafts of boysenberry, red currant, bay and a pleasing whisper of beach campfire are a nod to the vineyard’s northwest roots. Ripe black plum, cran-raspberry and notes of coffee surround the palate on rich silkiness. The finish is punctuated by distinctive minerality and a zesty, firm tannin embrace.”

Gary Horner, Winemaker

WINE HISTORY

Erath’s 119-acre Willakia Vineyard is located in the prestigious Eola-Amity Hills Appellation. During the growing season, the region benefits from the temperature-moderating effect of the prevailing ocean breezes that flow through Van Duzer Corridor. The vineyard is divided into small blocks with diverse clones and rootstocks based on the aspects, slopes and orientations of the vineyard’s beautiful rolling lands.

These unique characteristics serve to complete Winemaker Gary Horner’s philosophy of producing small, single vineyard wines to achieve high-quality and unique interpretations of Oregon Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. To date, the vineyard is planted with 98 acres of Pinot Noir and 21 acres of Chardonnay. The vineyard is certified sustainably farmed under the LIVE and Salmon Safe programs.

VINTAGE OVERVIEW

The 2016 growing season rocketed to the earliest start in recent history. An early warm spring transitioned to an even-keeled but warm summer. A welcome cooling trend towards the end of the ripening period spread harvest across four well-ordered weeks. Harvest began August 25 and lasted until September 27 under perfect conditions.

Fruit quality was exceptional, producing balanced wines that despite the warm and early season, maintained acidity with moderate alcohol. The result is excellent color, plush tannin and purity in the reds and classic varietal character in the whites.

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