



2017 Pinot noir

Villages Cuvée

Release Date: November 1, 2018

Production: 4,300 cases

Bottled: September 2018

Alcohol: 13.5%

**Suggested Pairings:
salmon, quail, pork
tenderloin and pasta
dishes**

**Aging Recommendation:
Up to 6 years**

Vineyard Notes

Our Villages Cuvée is produced from Pinot noir grapes grown in Oregon's northern Willamette Valley. Fruit from six Willamette Valley Vineyards are blended to create a Pinot noir that complements rich white meat and fish dishes. To enhance this match, we blend to maximize both the spectrum of flavors and length on the palate while minimizing the use of new oak. The composition for this bottling is: Zenith Vineyard 40%, Vitae Springs Vineyard 14%, Momtazi Vineyard 14%, Freedom Hill Vineyard 12%, Temperance Hill 10% and Shea Vineyard 10%.

Production Notes

The de-stemmed grapes were fermented in small stainless and Burgundy oak fermenter with no SO₂, allowing fermentations to proceed naturally. After gentle pressing and settling, the wine aged in French oak barrels, 13% of which were new for 12 months before bottling by gravity without fining.

Vintage Notes

2017, after three very warm and early harvests, brought a welcome change with cooler temperatures during the summer and a normal harvest window. We began picking on September 15th for sparkling wine. After a week with temperatures in the 70's, we harvested Chardonnay between 9/22 and 9/29. All of the Pinot noir was picked in a two-week window beginning on 9/26 with continued pleasant temperatures and no rain. The wines have more aromatic and flavor nuances with balanced acidity and moderate alcohols.

Tasting Notes

The 2017 Pinot noir, Villages Cuvée has robust sweet spice aromas with lovely black cherry, smoky berry and dark rose notes. Juicy and pungent flavors of dark cherry, wild strawberry, allspice, cinnamon with a touch of smoke fill your mouth. Beautifully balanced with soft tannins and fresh acidity, the finish slowly fades into supple dried fruit and spices. Still young now the wine will fill out through the winter and into the spring. This is my favorite wine for thanksgiving and flavorful white meat dishes. It is just as good with burgers, brats and pizza. Enjoy now through 2022.