

ELK COVE

VINEYARDS

2014 Reserve



VINTAGE 2014 in Oregon may be remembered as the vintage of a lifetime, one of those rare vintages, reminiscent of 1988 and 2002, when you have high quality and high quantity simultaneously. The tone for the season was set at bud break, which averaged two weeks early, a lead that held on through harvest. Growing conditions were mostly dry and warmer than normal resulting in a large number of small clusters that ripened evenly, giving us wines that are fruit focused, quite concentrated and amazingly fresh.

This year's warmer than average days and moderately cool nights created the ideal conditions that led to a faster rate of ripening due to less stress on the vines. Winemaker Adam Campbell notes "the amazing summer weather led to the lowest disease pressure I have ever seen, creating a harvest that was the stuff dreams are made of - little rain with gorgeous fruit coming in at an easy tempo for a relaxed and delightful crush".

As fruit came in with incredible evenness and extraordinary concentration, 2014 will likely be a show stopping vintage. We remain true to our goals as wine growers - looking to capture the beautiful, complex flavors that are the signature of Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris and other cool-climate varieties.

VINEYARD: Our winemaking team considers barrels from all of our estate plantings to make the Reserve our very best Pinot Noir. In 2014, the final blend included two barrels each from Mount Richmond, Five Mountain, Clay Court and our original Elk Cove Estate Vineyard in addition to our most favorite whole-cluster barrel from our newest vineyard site, Goodrich.

WINEMAKING: We only make a Reserve in exceptional years, selecting less than 1% of our Pinot Noir to make the best wine we can imagine, balancing diverse components from our best vineyard blocks.

"In 2014 we created a blend of Clay Court and Mount Richmond, plus some Roosevelt and a little La Bohème and a barrel from our newest vineyard, Goodrich. We think of this as a true reserve meaning we pick the finest 8 barrels in the cellar from our top single vineyard sites. This wine saw 56% new oak of only extra-tight grain light toasts from top Burgundian cooperages."

- Winemaker Adam Campbell

Our Reserve is both big and structured, designed to improve with cellaring for 20+ years.

VITICULTURE & ENOLOGY:

Vine Age: 7-40 years
Harvest Sugars: 24 brix
Vatting: Fermentation in small open top
steel fermentors.
10 months in French oak.
pH: 3.54
TA: 6
Alc: 14% v/v
Bottled Aug 2016
Cases Produced: 207

REVIEWS:

94 Points - *Robert Parker's Wine Advocate (June, 2016)*

"It has an intense bouquet with red and black fruit, touches of undergrowth and wilted violet petals that are very well-defined. The palate is medium-bodied with supple red and black fruit, the oak neatly embroidered into the fruit, very smooth in texture with a touch of allspice and clove toward the sustained finish. It is tightly coiled at the moment, but I am sure it will age into a very serious Pinot Noir." - N.M.

92 Points - *Wine Enthusiast (December 1, 2016)*