

ELK COVE VINEYARDS

2005 Pinot Noir Windhill

Windhill Vineyard, twenty miles west of Portland, is perennially one of Oregon's finest Pinot Noir vineyards. Planted in 1974, the vineyard became part of Elk Cove's portfolio in 1996 when Elk Cove purchased it. We have continued to produce limited production Single Vineyard designated wines from Windhill Vineyard since 1979! Temperate winds that blow across the vineyard's gentle south-facing slopes and a lower elevation (500 feet) situation than the estate vineyards at Elk Cove, allows for earlier ripening. The combination of super low yields, volcanic soils (Laurelwood) and great plant material (old vines – own rooted Pommard clone) are all essential elements for the finest Pinot Noir from this site in Western Oregon. Furthering our belief in sustainability, Windhill has been farmed with completely organic farming practices since 1999.

2005 was an interesting year, with one of the driest winters and wettest springs on record! And unlike recent vintages that brought warmer weather, early ripeness and higher alcohol, this year's harvest occurred later than most expected, resulting in cooler temperatures that will lead to lower alcohol levels, structured acidity and ideal flavor development. Vintage 2005 in the Willamette Valley will be a return to finesse and elegance, which has long characterized classic Oregon wines. Winemaker Adam Godlee Campbell states, "these are not the big block buster pinots of 2003. Instead they are pretty, food-friendly wines with great aging potential, showing a purity of fruit."



Viticultural Data:

Harvest Sugars: 22.6 Brix

pH: 3.68

Enological Data:

Vine Age: 31 years

Yield: 2.6 tons/acre

Bottled: September 2006

6 Bottle Cases Produced: 975

89 points ~ Stephen Tanzer's *International Wine Cellar* ~ May/June 2007

"Bright red. Pungently floral nose offers deep cheery and strawberry aromas and an exotic hint of sandalwood. Fleshy and suave, with sappy red berry flavors and a tangy mineral quality. The lightly tannic finish is spicy, meaty and long. I suspect that this medium-bodied pinot will benefit from another year of aging, but there's ample sweetness to give immediate pleasure." -- J.R.

Hilton Head Food & Wine Festival ~ February 2007

Silver Medal

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