

# ELK COVE

## VINEYARDS

### 2021 Reserve



**VINTAGE 2021** was an outstanding year at Elk Cove. Cool weather during bloom and moderate temperatures during most of the growing season brought forth an ample harvest of intensely concentrated fruit.

The timing of weather events was key to our success in 2021. Rainfall during bloom raised expectations for a small, high-quality crop. Then a once-in-a-millennium heat dome event brought worrying temperatures to the Pacific Northwest. This was thankfully during the most resilient stage of the growing season and our old vines survived without sign of serious stress or sunburn. Growth resumed normally once temperatures cooled with average heat from July through September bringing even ripening to the plentiful small, loose clusters. Our vines made it through the rain and the heat in fine condition with lots of variable sized berries, known as hens and chicks.

Harvest 2021 was not only of high quality but also surprisingly bountiful. Low levels of dehydration combined with the numerous small clusters and several acres of young vines coming into maturity meant a record tonnage for Elk Cove. For red Pinot Noirs, expect intense color and flavors bursting out of the glass, while white wines and rosés are fruit-forward with great acidity and balance.

**VINEYARD:** Our winemaking team considers barrels from all of our estate plantings to make the Reserve our very best Pinot Noir. In 2021, the final blend included three barrels from Roosevelt Vineyard, two from Clay Court, and four from our Mount Richmond West Vineyard.

**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.

“This wine is made from the finest 9 barrels in our cellar. It’s a parallel blending process to our Willamette Valley Pinot, but with an extremely small volume. Roosevelt lends great intensity to the 2021, but there’s also richness from Mount Richmond and bright fruit from Clay Court. I love to think of this wine 15-20 years down the track since we make our Reserve with longevity in mind.”

– Owner/Winemaker Adam Campbell

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

#### VITICULTURE & ENOLOGY:

Vine Age: 12-28 years

Harvest Sugars: 24 brix

Vatting: Fermentation in small open top steel fermentors.

10 months in 55% French oak.

pH: 3.47

TA: 5.9

Alc: 14% v/v

Bottled August 2022

#### REVIEWS:

##### 2019 Reserve - 95 Points - Vinous (Feb, 2022)

“Deep, brilliant ruby-red. Powerful, spice-accented cherry cola, boysenberry and black raspberry aromas show fine definition and take on vanilla and candied violet nuances with aeration. Conveys a suave blend of power and finesse to the sweet red and blue fruit preserve, mocha and floral pastille flavors, which firm up steadily through the back half. Polished, even tannins lend shape to a strikingly long, smooth finish that echoes the floral and spice notes. One-third new French oak.” – Josh Raynolds

##### 2018 Reserve - 92+ Points - Robert Parker (Dec, 2020)

##### 2016 Reserve - 92 Points - Robert Parker (Aug, 2018)