

ELK COVE VINEYARDS

2021 Roosevelt



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: Roosevelt Vineyard was planted in 1993 and has quickly become Elk Cove's most prized vineyard site. A four-acre high-density (2100 vines per acre) planting situated just south of the winery on Willakenzie soils, Roosevelt's south-facing hillside slopes to a steep precipice overlooking the magnificent Williams Canyon.

Roosevelt undergoes extensive pruning and cluster thinning to limit yields and maximize ripening to concentrate the fruit and is managed using completely organic practices. All of these elements combine to consistently produce one of Oregon's finest Pinot Noirs.

WINEMAKING: All of Elk Cove's delicate Pinot Noir fruit undergoes the same gentle handling through our gravity flow system. This allows us to achieve the elegance, texture and luscious quality that are the hallmarks of exquisite Pinot Noir.

This reserve level pinot noir is produced exclusively from grapes from our Roosevelt Vineyard. The wine is fermented in French oak and only the best barrels are selected to create what many consider Elk Cove's finest Pinot Noir.

REVIEWS:

VITICULTURE & ENOLOGY:

Vine Age: 7-28 years
Harvest Sugars: 24 brix
Vatting: Fermentation in small open top steel fermentors.
10 months in 38% new French oak.
pH: 3.61
TA: 5.6
Alc: 14% v/v
Bottled Aug 2022

2021 Roosevelt - 96 Points - Robert Parker's Wine Advocate (May 2023)

"The 2021 Pinot Noir Roosevelt is intense and expressive this vintage. Medium ruby-purple, it opens with streaks of graphite and pipe tobacco accenting a core of crushed cherries and smoked meats. The medium-bodied palate is impressively concentrated yet offers soft, silky tannins and seamless acidity. It's full of fragrant fruit and has a layered, spicy finish. It's a touch more coiled than the other 2021s in this lineup and will benefit from 3-5 years in bottle." -Erin Brooks

2021 Roosevelt - 94 Points - Jeb Dunnuck (September 2023)