

ELK COVE 2023 PINOT NOIR SCORES!

WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Willamette Valley AVA

SCORE	REVIEWER
92 pts	Wine Spectator
92 pts	Robert Parker Wine Advocate

CLAY COURT

Chehalem Mountain AVA

SCORE	REVIEWER
94 pts	Wine Spectator
93 pts	Robert Parker Wine Advocate

FIVE MOUNTAIN

Laurelwood District AVA

SCORE	REVIEWER
95 pts	Robert Parker Wine Advocate
94 pts	Wine Spectator

GOODRICH

Yamhill Carlton AVA

SCORE	REVIEWER
94 pts	Robert Parker Wine Advocate
92 pts	Wine Spectator

LA BOHÈME

Yamhill Carlton AVA

SCORE	REVIEWER
94+ pts	Robert Parker Wine Advocate

MOUNT RICHMOND

Yamhill Carlton AVA

SCORE	REVIEWER
94+ pts	Robert Parker Wine Advocate
93 pts	Wine Spectator

RESERVE

Willamette Valley AVA

SCORE	REVIEWER
95 pts	Robert Parker Wine Advocate

ROOSEVELT

Yamhill Carlton AVA

SCORE	REVIEWER
94 pts	Robert Parker Wine Advocate

ELK COVE 2023 HARVEST REPORT

Vintage 2023 required experience and patience that was rewarded with essential hang-time and ripening. The growing season started cool, then May sunshine brought an average bloom in mid-June followed by a glorious summer. We enjoyed many classic 80-degree Willamette Valley days, with nighttime highs staying down in the 50s even in August, typically the warmest month here in Oregon. The only exception to these consistent diurnal swings was a single big heat spike in mid-August. We anticipated picking in early September. However, some fortuitous rain events allowed us to push back harvest and we were thankful for the additional hang time.

Harvest came early, but not too early. We brought in beautiful fruit and we were pleased to still be picking Pinot noir into early October. When you have fast accumulation of fruit sugars, cool weather can be a welcome respite with even small amounts of rain helping the grapevines regulate and slow ripening. One of the reasons why Oregon Pinot Noir is so prized is for its freshness of fruit, and you can only get that vibrancy when it's under 50 degrees during picking.

2023 brought amazing fruit quality, but our production was down, especially on cool climate white wines like Pinot Gris. Being an estate grown winery, we must follow Mother Nature's lead as we cannot buy fruit to increase production. Smaller yields do mean a smaller crop and less wine, but we embrace vintage variation. Another great benefit of being estate grown is that it's our decision exactly when to pick. Rather than rushing to bring fruit into the cellar, in 2023 we were able to play the odds and wait out the rain on blocks that needed additional hang time to get the flavor development we needed.

ELK COVE
VINEYARDS

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