



CRISTOM EILEEN PINOT NOIR 2015

Appellation: Eola-Amity Hills; Willamette Valley; Oregon; USA

Winemaker: Steve Doerner

Closure: Cork

Alcohol: 14.0%

Organically Farmed



Vineyard

The 15-acre Eileen Vineyard is a group of vineyard plots named for Cristom owner Paul Gerrie's wife. Farmed organically, it is the youngest of the estate pinot noir vineyards, planting began in 1997, at the high density of 2300 vines per acre. It extends to the top of the winery's property where cooler conditions and the chance to soak up the last sun of the day encourage the grapes to ripen slowly and evenly. Sweetly spiced, with forward-focused fruit and gentle tannins that coat the mouth, Eileen offers immediate drinking pleasure, with an even and voluptuous quality that gives her wide appeal. In 2006 4 and a half acres of new vines (Wädenswil clones) were added to the Eileen Vineyard, producing fruit that promises the best of Eileen is yet to come.

Reviews

Named after the mother of owner Tom Gerrie, the Eileen vineyard comprising 6.67ha has a higher elevation at up to 230 meters in the Eola-Amity Hills. It shows good freshness and lots of cool fruit-focused clarity. It's deliciously delicate, with persistent raspberry fruit, spice and sweetness that dominates the luminous palate, but there's no lack of structure here with good flesh and firmness to the tannin profile. This is still very primary and will age well. **94 points Decanter Magazine August 28, 2018**

Pale to medium ruby-purple, the 2015 Pinot Noir Eileen gives bold raspberry preserves and red currant jelly notes with suggestions of chargrill meat, truffles, forest floor and cedar. Medium-bodied, the palate delivers a solid backbone of grainy tannins and loads of freshness supporting the generous, muscular fruit, finishing with great persistence. **94+ points The Wine Advocate 1/12/17**

Precise and refined, with restrained black raspberry, black tea and stony mineral flavors that build tension toward the finish. Drink now through 2024. **-92 points, Wine Spectator Feb 28, 2018**

Vintage

In 2015, the Pinot Noir vines got off to a warm and dry start with the earliest budbreak (March!) ever recorded at our estate – a full 3 weeks earlier than our twenty-five-year average. Warmth continued through spring, leading to bloom beginning in most blocks at the end of May – also the earliest ever recorded at the estate. The warm, dry weather during flowering was prime for yielding a heavy fruit set, and the vineyard produced sizeable clusters with large berries. These ideal growing conditions created the rare combination of abundant quantity and exceptional quality fruit, producing intensely fragrant and energetic wines that show a blend of depth, concentration and nuance.

Stats

Clones: Dijon (113, 114, 115, 777) Pommard, Wadenswil

Cooperage: 18 months in French oak, 56% new

pH: 3.64

TA: 5.6 g/L

Bottled: 2nd May, 2017

Cases Produced: 1043

