



CRISTOM
VINEYARDS

CRISTOM LOUISE PINOT NOIR 2015

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

Winemaker: Steve Doerner

Closure: Cork

Alcohol: 14.0%

Certified Sustainably Grown



Vineyard

Cristom owner Paul Gerrie's maternal grandmother is the namesake for the Louise Vineyard, the first of the Cristom estate vineyards to be planted. Top slopes that run up against woodland separate Louise's lower vineyards from the upper, causing them to spend late afternoon in shade. The fruit on the lower slopes, which get more sun, is often the first of the season to be harvested. Beginning with the 1996 release, Louise has produced a wine that is more firmly structured than the wine from the other sites, full of deep and silky tannins. Characterised by a rich nose that's big and intense, Louise lingers on the palate, her story slowly unfolding.

Reviews

According to Cristom's Randy Ford, the 3.7ha Louise vineyard is first and last to have its grapes picked, depending on the vines' altitude and position on the lower or upper bench. The difference in picking date could be as much as five weeks. Biodynamically farmed and aged in 50% new oak, the Louise Pinot has Cristom's hallmark floral, potpourri character on the nose and palate. Gorgeously refined red and black fruits combine with a dash of Asian spice notes to give a linear, medium-bodied red with some tannic heft and spine-tingling acidity. **Stunningly good 94 points Decanter Magazine August 28, 2018**

Pale to medium ruby-purple, the 2015 Pinot Noir Louise Vineyard has a savory, almost meaty nose over a core of Black Forest cake, red currants, mulberries, cardamom and fenugreek with a touch of potpourri. Medium-bodied, the palate has exquisitely fine tannins and a lively line of acidity supporting generous, multi-layered red berry preserves and spice, finishing with impressive persistence and depth. **94 points. The Wine Advocate 1/12/17**

Well-framed but ultimately restrained, with accents of blueberry, smoky sage and spice box that persist toward firm tannins. Best after 2018.-

89 points, Wine Spectator.com 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
Cooperage:	18 months in French oak, 56% new
pH:	3.73
TA:	5.7 g/L
Bottled:	1 st May, 2017
Cases Produced:	945

