

2016 Broken Destemmer, Pinot Noir Johan Vineyards

Willamette Valley AVA

Johan Vineyard is an 85-acre, Demeter-certified biodynamic site in the Willamette Valley, south of McMinnville and west of Salem. Although it's a relatively low-elevation site, due to its proximity to the coast and the winds that howl through the Van Duzer Corridor every summer afternoon, the fruit here tends to ripen later than in our other vineyards. In 2016, while receiving a second round of Pinot from the vineyard, the destemmer broke. Without the ability to functionally destem the fruit, the fruit was processed **100% whole-cluster**. By doing so, the wine developed sturdier tannins and structure, along with notes of earth, graphite, thyme and tobacco leaf—all complements to the consistent, bright fruit notes with which Johan Vineyards is associated. This is a wine that has all of the desired characteristics in a cellar-worthy Pinot Noir: Fruit; Structure; and Acidity. (Only 100 cases produced.)

Technical Information

Grape Varietals: 100% Pinot Noir

Vineyard: Johan Vineyards

Final pH: 3.74

Final TA: 5.7 g/L

Alc. By Vol.: 13.5%

Winemaking: The fruit—all Wadenswil clone—was sorted and fermented with 100% whole clusters. In lieu of sulfur, we use dry ice to mitigate oxygenation while keeping microbial health of the grapes, including the native yeast we allow to kick off, and complete, primary fermentation. Pigeage and punchdowns are conducted twice a day for three weeks, until dry. Pressed gently into neutral French oak to age for 22 months. Minimal sulfur added at the completion of malolactic fermentation, and just before bottling. No use of enzymes or fining agents were employed, and the wine remains unfiltered throughout.

