## 2015 Denison Cellars Johnson Ridge Vineyard Pinot Noir <br> Willamette Valley AVA, Oregon



## The Vintage

The 2015 vintage was one of the warmest on record. Following a relatively dry and warm winter, budbreak was nearly 4 weeks early. Conditions remained dry, with occasional heat spikes into the mid-90s F. A late-July period of temperatures in excess of 100 degrees resulted in some sunburn damage, however, after this event temperatures moderated. Nighttime lows cooled, and welcome precipitation toward the end of August slowed the ripening process to a more desirable level. Overall, harvest yields were above average levels, and fruit quality was outstanding. The resulting wines display a wonderful richness, with delightful ripe flavors, rich texture and mouthfeel, and deep, dark color.

## The Wine

The 2015 Johnson Ridge Vineyard Pinot Noir is a blend of 777 ( $60 \%$ ) and pommard ( $40 \%$ ) clones. Each contributes unique characteristics: 777 adds dark color, black cherry and blackberry flavors, while pommard adds blueberry and a slightly smoky, earthy note. The resulting wine has dense mid-palate volume, velvety tannins, and a long, seamless finish, with hints of blackberry, blueberry, and forest floor.

The fruit was harvested on September $18^{\text {th }}$, and spent four days in a cold-soak to extract color. Fermentation was completed in small, one-ton bins, and took eighteen days to complete. French oak barrels were used for aging, 20\% of which were new, and the blend was created in October, after spending 12 months in barrel. Bottling was completed in March; only 60 cases were produced.

The 2015 Denison Cellars Johnson Ridge Vineyard Pinot Noir is unfined and unfiltered, and to prevent any incidence of cork taint, is bottled under a twist-off closure.

Harvest Date: Sept. 18 ${ }^{\text {th }}$

Final pH: 3.67

Alcohol: 14.0\%

Suggested Retail: \$40
www.denisoncellars.com

Brix: $23.7^{0}-24.2^{\circ}$

Final TA: $5.4 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{L}$

Production: 60 cases

Winemaker: Tim Wilson

