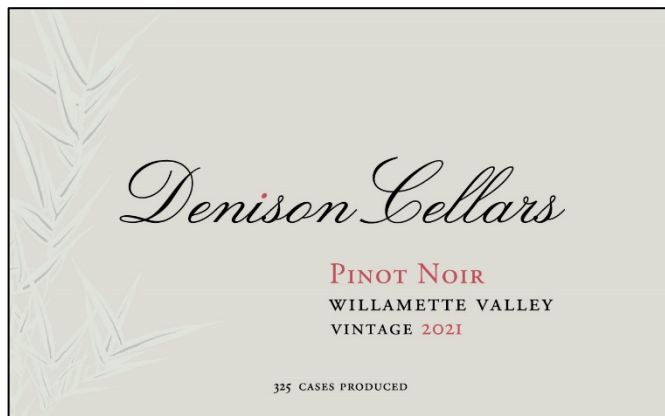


# 2021 DENISON CELLARS WILLAMETTE VALLEY PINOT NOIR

WILLAMETTE VALLEY AVA, OREGON



## THE VINTAGE

The 2021 growing season got off to a mild and drier than normal start with budbreak occurring in mid-April. The growing season ranged from slightly lower than average temperatures that were punctuated by extreme heat spikes in late June and mid-July. Fortunately, the fruit was not damaged by the extreme heat (temperatures up to 115 degrees Fahrenheit), as clusters were barely formed so were less susceptible to sunburn. September was cooler than

normal, allowing the fruit to slowly develop to optimal maturity. The quality of the harvested fruit was high, and the fruit for this wine was harvested between September 22<sup>nd</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>.

## THE WINE

The 2021 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir is a blend of clones 777 and Pommard from Johnson Ridge, Cassin, and Björnson vineyards. The wine displays deep garnet color, aromas of marionberry, dark cherry, and a hint of pine forest floor. Juicy mouth-filling flavors of blackberry, black cherry, a hint of blueberry follow. This wine features dense mid-palate volume, velvety ripe tannins, and a long seamless finish.

The fruit was harvested between September 22<sup>nd</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> and spent two days in a cold-soak to extract color. Fermentations were completed in small, one-ton bins and took 19 to 26 days to complete. French oak barrels were used for aging, 15% of which were new. The blend was created in October of 2022 after spending 11 months in barrel. Bottling was completed in February of 2023; 325 cases were produced.

The 2021 Denison Cellars Willamette Valley Pinot Noir is unfinned and unfiltered, and to prevent any incidence of cork taint, is bottled under a twist-off closure.

**Harvest Date:** Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> - Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>

**Brix:** 23.7° - 24.2°

**pH:** 3.54

**Final TA:** 5.10 g/L

**Alcohol:** 13.8%

**Production:** 325 cases

**Suggested Retail:** \$32

**Winemaker:** Tim Wilson

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