

2014 DENISON CELLARS TÊTE DE CUVÉE PINOT NOIR

WILLAMETTE VALLEY AVA, OREGON



THE VINTAGE

The growing season arrived early, as budbreak was 2 weeks ahead of schedule. Summer temperatures were much warmer than average, with 30 days during which the maximum reached or exceeded 90° F. Precipitation was lower than average, and nights remained relatively warm. Fruit set was perfect, and the resulting clusters were relatively large in size. The quality of the incoming fruit was extremely high and it arrived at the winery in pristine

condition. The resulting wines have very soft ripe tannins, and wonderful mouthfeel and flavors. They are very approachable in their youth, and should age gracefully over the next decade.

THE WINE

Tête de Cuvée Pinot Noir is only produced when we are able to create a blend that transcends our single-vineyard wines. This was the case in 2014, when we combined the ripe red fruit flavors and intensity of Kiff Vineyard fruit with the dark, dense flavors and mid-palate volume of Johnson Ridge fruit. The resulting wine is balanced and complex, with rich flavors of ripe raspberry Black and Bing cherry, and a hint of forest floor, all of which lead into voluptuous mid-palate volume, velvety tannins, and a long, seamless finish.

The Kiff Vineyard fruit was harvested on September 21st and October 5th and 12th; the Johnson Ridge Vineyard on September 21st. All of the fruit spent three days in a cold-soak to extract color. Fermentation was completed in small, one-ton bins, and took 16 days to complete. French oak barrels were used for aging, 20% of which were new, and the blend was created in April, after spending 11 months in barrel and 6 months in tank. Bottling was completed in June; only 40 cases were produced.

The 2014 Denison Cellars Tête de Cuvée Pinot Noir is unfinned and unfiltered, and to prevent any incidence of cork taint, is bottled under a twist-off closure.

Harvest Date: Sept 21st, October 5th

Brix: 23.7° - 25.5°

Final pH: 3.65

Final TA: 5.2 g/L

Alcohol: 14.5%

Production: 40 cases

Suggested Retail: \$60

Winemaker: Tim Wilson

www.denisoncellars.com

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