

SHEA WINE CELLARS ESTATE WILLAMETTE VALLEY PINOT NOIR



100% Pinot Noir. This quite concentrated wine gives aromas and flavors of flowers and dark red fruits with compliments of violet, black tea and white pepper. Big but not overpowering. The tannins are smooth, the acidity bright and the wine structured and balanced.

Shea vineyard sits on sedimentary soil over fractured sandstone. Shea was one of the early vineyards in this area of Yamhill County and on this soil type. Today, the vineyard is surrounded by some of the premiere wineries making Pinot noir in the "New World." The Estate Pinot Noir is the signature Shea Vineyard blend. It comes from fruit from throughout the estate. Fermentation occurs with 3% whole cluster, 97% destemmed fruit. It sees 10 months in 47% new French oak; 53% previously filled barrels.

Founded by Dick and Deirdre Shea in 1996, Shea Vineyard was first planted to wine grapes in the late 1980s. They grew grapes for more than 10 years supplying some of the best winemakers in the area with fruit, including Ken Wright Cellars, Beaux Freres, Patricia Green Cellars, Westrey Wine Company, Panther Creek Cellars, Raptor Ridge and St. Innocent. In 1996, Shea decided to start his own winery, and today Shea Vineyard, which lies at the heart of Oregon's Yamhill-Carlton District, is a 200-acre vineyard property with 140 planted acres, 135 of which are planted to Pinot Noir vines with the balance planted to Chardonnay. Roughly 25% of the Pinot Noir fruit produced each year is used by Shea Wine Cellars for its releases. The remaining fruit is sold to some of the finest winemakers in Oregon and California. *The Wine Enthusiast* in its annual review of Oregon wines in December 2000, wrote, "It is no coincidence that our two top rated wines... were made from fruit from Richard Shea's perennially superb Willamette Valley vineyard."

The intention of Shea Wine Cellars is to continue to make small quantities of world class Pinot noir and Chardonnay.

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Tasting Note:

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100% Pinot Noir. Aromas & flavors of flowers & dark red fruits with violet, black tea & white pepper; big but not overpowering; smooth tannins, bright acidity; structured & balanced.

Shelf Talker:

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100% Pinot Noir. This quite concentrated wine gives aromas & flavors of flowers & dark red fruits with compliments of violet, black tea & white pepper. Big but not overpowering. The tannins are smooth, the acidity bright & the wine structured & balanced. Shea supplied grapes to some of the best winemakers in Oregon & California for 10 years before deciding to start their own winery in 1996, when they also began to produce small quantities of their own world class Pinot Noir & Chardonnay.

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