

BEAUX FRÈRES PINOT NOIR, UPPER TERRACE VINEYARD



100% Pinot Noir. Deep ruby red. Dark and complex, this wine offers a plethora of Indian spices, black cherries, black currants, forest floor and a wisp of sweet wood smoke. Structured and richly tannic, it expands gracefully over the palate and reminds us of a Grand Cru Corton at this early stage. Elegantly seductive! With easily 15+ years of aging potential. Organic.

The Upper Terrace Vineyard is planted on a steep South facing slope to Pinot Noir Dijon clones on three different rootstocks. The site has sedimentary soils and a slightly higher elevation than the Beaux Frères Vineyard. The

Beaux Frères Vineyard is planted with tightly spaced vines, and yields are kept to some of the lowest in the industry. They farm organically, do not irrigate, and include Biodynamic practices. The grapes are harvested when physiologically (rather than analytically) ripe. The winemaking philosophy is one of minimal intervention. Spontaneous fermentation with indigenous yeast. Punch downs and pump overs by hand throughout the day.

Aged 10-12 months on lees in French oak barrels in their cold cellar. Minimal oxygen exposure.

While vacationing in 1986, Michael Etzel came upon an 88-acre pig farm for sale on Ribbon Ridge in the Northern Willamette Valley, Yamhill County, Oregon. After some deliberation, he purchased the farm with his brother-in-law (the French idiom is beaux frères), wine critic Robert Parker, Jr. Michael then moved with his young family from Colorado and began planting Pinot Noir, slowly transforming the old pig and dairy farm into a jewel. Today his son, Mike D. Etzel is winemaker. In the spring of 2017, their second-generation winery began a new partnership with eighth-generation, family-owned French winery Maisons & Domaines Henriot.

Since their first vintage in 1991, the Beaux Frères philosophy remains the same; to produce a world-class Pinot Noir from small, well-balanced yields and ripe, healthy fruit that represents the essence of the vineyard. Beaux Freres wines develop significant perfume, weight and texture in the bottle, and most need a bit of bottle time to really show their stuff.

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Tasting Note:

BEAUX FRÈRES PINOT NOIR, UPPER TERRACE VINEYARD

100% Pinot Noir. A plethora of Indian spices, black cherries, black currants, forest floor & sweet wood smoke; structured & richly tannic; graceful & elegantly seductive. Organic.

Shelf Talker:

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