

ILLAHE VINEYARDS ESTATE PINOT NOIR, PERCHERON BLOCK

100% Pinot Noir. Opens with raspberry covered chocolates, supported by high-toned notes of sweet lime pith. An exotic spiciness pervades, illuminating old spice, black pepper, Chinese five spice and vanilla, followed by herbal tinctures of sarsaparilla and cola. The palate is supple and generous with flavors of cherry and cassis, supported by notes of cedar, sandalwood and sweet marzipan; leading to a lingering finish.



Illaha's vineyard is on an 80-acre, south facing slope that experiences slightly earlier bud-break and flowering than most of the Willamette Valley and grapes achieve maturity even in cooler vintages. Excellent drainage. Cooled in the evening by the Van Duzer winds. The majority of the vineyard lies on marine sediments atop ancient siletz rock. Shallow clay soils. Elevation from 250-440 feet. Cover crops throughout the vineyard. As part of Oregon's Deep Roots Coalition, which promotes responsible water management, mature plants are not irrigated. Rainwater is harvested to mitigate dry spells. Extensive green pruning and plant topping done by hand. To reduce reliance on fossil fuels, they have solar panels on the winery and use horses to mow and transport grapes. The gravity-flow winery features three levels, utilizing the natural slope of the site, starting from the crush pad to the fermenters and the press below. A further drop-off from the fermentation room to the press level allows them to load the press baskets by hand. The building's west and north faces are buried in the hill, which stabilizes the temperature. Minimal intervention and historical winemaking techniques. This pinot is 100% estate grown and hand-picked. It is from a single block at the very top of their hill, considered to be the best block of pinot noir in the vineyard, named after their Percheron draft horses. Fermentation is 100% native yeast. Macerated on the skins for 24 days and pressed in a wood basket. Aged for 19 months in barrel with 50% new French oak barrels and 50% neutral French oak barrels.

ILLAHE, pronounced Ill-Uh-Hee, is a local Chinook word meaning "earth" or "place" or "soil." According to the winemakers: *"At Illaha, our goal is to make wine as naturally as possible from soil to bottle. We work by hand on small lots with age-old techniques and materials. Our focus is to grow and make quality Pinot Noir and white wines that express the vintage and their varietal characteristics. We don't use enzymes or additives. Some of our wines are made entirely by hand, with no electricity or modern mechanization. We use a gentle wooden basket press and age our Pinot Noir in French and Oregon oak."*

AN EASTERLY WINE SELECTION • BELFAST, ME

Tasting Note:

ILLAHE VINEYARDS ESTATE PINOT NOIR, PERCHERON BLOCK

100% Pinot Noir. Raspberry covered chocolate & high-toned sweet lime pith; old spice, black pepper, Chinese five-spice, vanilla, herbal sarsaparilla & cola; flavors of cherry, cassis, cedar, sandalwood & sweet marzipan; supple & generous; lingering finish.

Shelf Talker:

ILLAHE VINEYARDS ESTATE PINOT NOIR PERCHERON BLOCK



100% Estate Grown, hand-picked Pinot Noir. Opens with raspberry covered chocolates, supported by high-toned notes of sweet lime pith. An exotic spiciness pervades, illuminating old spice, black pepper, Chinese five spice & vanilla, followed by herbal sarsaparilla & cola. Supple & generous flavors of cherry & cassis, supported by cedar, sandalwood, sweet marzipan & a lingering finish.

AN EASTERLY WINE SELECTION