

# ST. INNOCENT PINOT NOIR, VILLAGES CUVÉE



100% Pinot Noir. Heady aromas of sweet, ground spice, fresh berries and black cherries with hints of mint and moist earth. Dark red fruit flavors, loads of spice and white pepper burst onto your palate. This is followed by rich dark berry compote, cigar box, and hints of Asian five spice. The overall impression is of impressive length and breadth as well as remarkable pungent flavors while embracing round tannins well into the finish. Try paired with salmon, quail, pork tenderloin and pasta dishes. Organic.

The majority of grapes for this wine are grown in the Vitae Springs Vineyard, a cool site on thin volcanic soil located in the hills south of Salem, Oregon. Fruit from other sites are blended to create a Pinot noir that complements rich white meat and fish dishes. The de-stemmed grapes were fermented in small stainless & Burgundy oak fermenter with no SO<sub>2</sub>, allowing natural fermentations. After gentle pressing & settling, the wine was aged in French oak barrels, 11% of which were new, for 12 months before bottling by gravity without fining.

St. Innocent began as an idea conceived in a moment of passion and inspiration in 1983. Mark Vlossak spent the next five years studying, taking classes, and apprenticing with Oregon wine pioneer, Fred Arterberry. In 1988, St. Innocent Winery was founded with a goal to produce wines that respect the quality and tradition of the Old World in one of the newest and most exciting wine growing regions on the planet: Oregon's Willamette Valley. Mark Vlossak is founder, president and winemaker of St. Innocent Winery in Salem, Oregon. He oversees the vineyards and represents St. Innocent in the national marketplace. Mark's exposure to wine began at the age of seven when he began tasting wines daily with his father, a wine importer. During his university training, he developed a love for Champagne. After reading an article in 1983 on American sparkling wine in Bon Appetit magazine, he was inspired to become a winemaker. St. Innocent has grown from 600 cases in their first year to their current production of 10,000 cases, yet each wine is still handcrafted.

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## *Tasting Note:*

### ST. INNOCENT PINOT NOIR, VILLAGES CUVÉE

100% Pinot Noir. Aromas of sweet spice, berries & black cherries with hints of mint & moist earth; flavors of dark red fruit, loads of spice & white pepper, followed by berry compote & cigar box; round tannins; long finish. Organic.

## *Shelf Talker:*

### ST. INNOCENT VILLAGES CUVÉE PINOT NOIR

100% Pinot Noir. Aromas of sweet spice, berries & black cherries with hints of mint & moist earth. Flavors of dark red fruit, loads of spice & white pepper, followed by berry compote & cigar box. Impressive length & breadth as well as remarkable pungent flavors while embracing round tannins well into the finish. Try paired with salmon, quail, pork tenderloin & pasta dishes. Organic.



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