

NICOLAS-JAY ESTATE 2022 BISHOP CREEK VINEYARD PINOT NOIR, YAMHILL-CARLTON

The Winery

Nicolas-Jay Estate is the story of a three-decade friendship between famed Burgundian Winemaker Jean-Nicolas Méo and music entrepreneur Jay Boberg.

A former vineyard owner and grower in the Napa Valley, Jay delivers a unique passion and discipline for quality control, estate management and grower relations. An important and esteemed music industry icon, Jay now couples a business acumen with a natural congeniality that is pivotal to the estate's success.

After 30+ years of Winemaking in Burgundy, and a desire to further challenge himself, Jean-Nicolas was elated to innovate once again. This time in the Willamette Valley. In the early 2000's he explored the Côte d'Or and created "Méo-Camuzet Frère et Soeurs" négoce label. The Nicolas-Jay Estate would allow him to discover what possibilities exist in the new world first-hand. Applying his viticulture and winemaking gifts to create a range of wines that would be far more obtainable than the Domaine's, but every bit as world-class.



The Wine

This vineyard was first planted to ungrafted rootstock in 1988 on tight 5x5 rows of three Pinot Noir clones (Pommard, Wädenswil, 777) in north-south facings blocks. This iconic site in the northern reaches of Yamhill-Carlton also features high-elevation Chardonnay clones (76, 95, 548) on the upper-bench of the property on rootstock dating back to the late 1990's. Dramatic elevation changes, rugged growing conditions and an extremely low water table has pushed root systems deep (30-40') into the porous and nutritionally deficient marine sedimentary soils of the Eocene Era and alluvial sands of the Missoula floods. These unusually challenging conditions, a Mediterranean climate, broad diurnal temperature changes and high degree days (2,400) generates 1-2 tons per acre of small, thick-skinned berries that feature profound texture and immense structure. The Bishop Creek Vineyard makes up a large portion of all fruit crushed each vintage at the estate, while also representing a sizeable portion of Oregon's remaining ungrafted rootstock planted in the last century.

Harvest

Pinot Noir shows classic, cool-climate aromatics reminiscent of vintages long ago. A delicate and ethereal structure shows elegance on the front end, but a generous complexity develops in the mid-palate with waves of citrus fruit acidity intermingling with a dark blackberry liqueur and minerality essence. Lifted and upright from start to finish with an unrelenting precision and energy throughout.

Press / Accolades

- The 2022 Pinot Noir from Bishop Creek Vineyard, planted in the late '80s, pours a deep ruby garnet and showcases the vineyard's bold character. Aromas of black raspberries, red currants, and dried cranberry are interwoven with sagebrush and delicate lavender, while subtle notes of sandalwood and black tea add an earthy complexity. International Wine Report
- The palate shows a fruited density that is balanced by real brightness. Tart smoky citrus notes, raspberries and a hint of pomegranate pulp and enveloped by savoury dried herbs. **Decanter**
- 95 Editors' Choice. Wine & Spirits



Farming: Organic, Bio-dynamic SOIL: Marine sedimentary (Willakenzie)

Harvested: Oct 10-16 Harvest Brix: 22.8

Vinification: Spontaneous native yeast

Fining / Filtration: None

Élevage: 50% new French oak, 16 mo.

TA: 5.7 g/L, **pH**: 3.74 **Alcohol**: 13.5%

Date Bottled: May 14, 2024 Production: 335 cases