

Cristom

Cristom Jessie Vineyard Pinot Noir is a masterpiece of structure and elegance, combining vibrant red fruit, floral aromatics, and earthy complexity from one of the most distinctive sites in the Eola-Amity Hills AVA .

CRISTOM VINEYARDS

Jessie Vineyard Pinot Noir 2021

Oregon, USA



Region and Vineyards

The **Jessie Vineyard**, planted in **1994**, is named after founder Paul Gerrie's grandmother, Jessie Sommers Gerrie. It is located on the steep, east-facing mid-slopes of the **Eola-Amity Hills AVA** in Oregon's **Willamette Valley**. Covering **11.5 acres**, it is planted exclusively with **Pinot Noir** using a high-density method of **2,311 vines per acre**.

This unique vineyard has an east-west row orientation, preventing terracing and preserving bright fruit and floral aromatics by protecting the grapes from the intense afternoon sun. The soils are a mix of **volcanic Columbia River Basalts**, including Jory, Saum, Nekia, Gelderman, Ritner, and Witzel, which contribute structure, minerality, and a profound sense of place to the wine. The vineyard benefits from cooling Pacific winds channeled through the **Van Duzer Corridor**, ensuring vibrant acidity and balanced ripeness.

Winemaking

This vintage was characterized by a long growing season, with cool spring temperatures and a warm, sunny summer that allowed for slow, even ripening. Grapes were **100% hand-harvested** from Jessie Vineyard between September 23 and October 12, ensuring optimal fruit quality.

Winemaking included **49% whole-cluster fermentation**, enhancing structure and aromatic complexity. Fermentations were conducted with **100% native yeasts**, showcasing the vineyard's natural microbiome. The wine was aged for **17 months on its lees** in **30% new French oak barrels**, integrating spice and texture while preserving the purity of the fruit. The wine was bottled **unfined and unfiltered**, ensuring a true expression of its terroir.

Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep ruby with hints of garnet.
- **Aromas**: Intriguing floral and savory notes of **rose petals**, **shiitake mushrooms**, and **charcuterie**, alongside vibrant **cherry** and **strawberry rhubarb**.
- **Palate**: Elegant and textural, with flavors of **crunchy red fruit**, **herbs**, and a touch of earthiness. Firm tannins and fresh acidity lead to a long, persistent finish.

Did you know?

The **Jessie Vineyard** is Cristom's most dramatic and challenging site to farm due to its steep slopes. Its dense planting forces vine roots deeper into the volcanic soils, enhancing the wine's complexity and creating a profound sense of place.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Wild mushroom tart with thyme**: Highlights the wine's earthy and herbal notes.
- **Duck breast with cherry glaze**: Complements the vibrant red fruit flavors.
- **Grilled salmon with soy-ginger sauce**: Matches the wine's savory and umami undertones.
- **Aged cheddar or Gruyère**: Balances the wine's acidity and refined tannins.



Robert Parker (RP) : 95 Points (2021)

The 2021 Pinot Noir Jessie Vineyard was fermented with 52% whole clusters, and the wine was matured for 18 months in 38% new French oak. It features layered scents of raspberry, pomegranate, tea leaves, prosciutto and earth, offering additional nuances with each return to the glass. The medium-bodied palate offers complex layers of fruit, earth and spice. It has a seamless frame of dusty tannins and vibrant acidity and a long, fragrant finish. 781 cases were made.



Robert Parker (RP) : 96 Points (2019)

The 2019 Pinot Noir Jessie Vineyard offers notable layering and purity this vintage. Intense, savory cranberry fruit is accented by tones of charcuterie and sweet balsamic on the nose, and the palate combines that sweet, savory and earthy character in a silky frame, finishing with a flourish of spices and great length. (EB)



James Suckling (JS) : 96 Points (2019)

The aromas are pretty amazing here with dried flowers, pure fruit, sweet berries and dark strawberries. It's full-bodied and very layered with ripe, velvety tannins and a long, flavorful finish. Richness with focus. Very drinkable now, but better after 2023.