



Cristom

Crafted from the most wind-swept vines on the Cristom Estate, Eileen Vineyard Pinot Noir combines structure, finesse, and depth with a balance of fruit and savory characteristics.



Eileen Vineyard Pinot Noir 2021

Oregon, USA

Region and Vineyards

The **Eileen Vineyard**, established in **1997**, is named after co-founder Eileen Gerrie and sits at the crest of the **Eola Hills**, reaching an elevation of over **735 feet**. Its position offers commanding views of the Cascade and Oregon Coast Ranges while benefiting from the cooling effects of the **Van Duzer Corridor**. These strong, cold Pacific winds sweep through the vineyard, resulting in small berries with thick skins, contributing to the wine's structure and intensity.

The vineyard spans nearly **22 acres** and features one of Cristom's most geologically diverse sites, with a mix of **volcanic soils**, including Jory, Nekia, Saum, Ritner, Witzel, and Yamhill. This soil diversity, coupled with clonal selections such as Pommard, Wädenswil, and Dijon (114, 115, 777), enhances the wine's complexity and depth.

Winemaking

This vintage was defined by a long growing season with cool spring temperatures and a warm summer, allowing the fruit to ripen slowly and evenly. The grapes were **100% hand-harvested** and underwent **51% whole-cluster fermentation**, enhancing aromatic complexity and textural structure.

Fermentation was conducted with **100% native yeast**, reflecting the vineyard's natural microbiome. The wine was aged for **17 months on its lees** in **32% new French oak barrels**, which added subtle spice and depth while preserving the wine's vibrant fruit. It was bottled **unfined and unfiltered**, ensuring a pure expression of the vineyard.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby with garnet hues.
- **Aromas:** Alluring notes of **sweet plum, cola, lavender, sage**, jasmine, licorice, and savory leather.
- **Palate:** Dense and textural, with flavors of **black currant, dried blueberry**, and oak bark, supported by supple tannins and a long, elegant finish.



Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir



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Did you know?

The **Eileen Vineyard** produces some of the smallest berries on the Cristom Estate due to its exposure to strong Pacific winds. This results in a higher skin-to-juice ratio, giving the wine exceptional structure and aging potential.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Herb-crusted lamb chops:** Enhances the wine's savory and herbal characteristics.
- **Duck confit with blackberry reduction:** Complements the wine's fruity and earthy notes.
- **Wild mushroom risotto:** Matches the wine's minerality and textural richness.
- **Aged Gouda or Taleggio:** Balances the wine's acidity and supple tannins.



Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 96 Points (2021)

Deeply seductive, the 2021 Pinot Noir Eileen Vineyard opens with a burst of mentholated herbs, licorice and sweet autumnal spices. Juicy and broad upon entry, this envelops the palate with ripe red and hints of blue fruit, giving way to suggestions of cola and lavender. Its mineral core comes forward through the finish, gaining tension through a blend of fine tannins and residual acids as spice and floral notes resonate throughout. The Eileen Vineyard is refined using 46% whole clusters and 34% new French oak barrels for eighteen months.



Jeb Dunnuck (JD) : 96 Points (2021)

A deep saturated ruby, the 2021 Pinot Noir Eileen Vineyard is more aromatically reserved initially but opens in the glass to emerging notes of rocky earth, ripe black and blue fruit, and wild herbs. It already displays a tension aromatically that carries over to the palate, where the wine is full-bodied, with a weightless feel, ripe, well-structured tannins, and a tension-packed, ripe core. It has a nervous energy at this stage that bodes well for significant aging potential over the next 15 to 20 years. It's a remarkable wine that demands aging time.



Decanter (DCT) : 95 Points (2021)

At the top of this estate site, the Eileen Vineyard sits adjacent to Eola's iconic Temperance Hill and stares down the barrel of the Van Duzer Corridor, where those Pacific winds take dead aim at this part of the AVA. The resulting wine is a study in Eola-Amity terroir, a combination of soil diversity and those famed winds that make this place possible. White pepper and crushed basalt aromas blend with violet florals and juicy cut blood orange. The palate is fleshy, with a core of dark fruit wrapped up in savoury elegance, white pepper, and spice from these stony hills carry the wine into its amply structured finish.

