

La Crema

Born from diverse volcanic and marine soils, this 2021 Pinot Noir marries New World vibrancy with Old World restraint, capturing the essence of its celebrated cool-climate terroir.

LA CREMA

Willamette Oregon Pinot Noir 2022

Oregon, USA



Alcohol :13,60 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

Region and Vineyards

The Willamette Valley AVA stretches from Portland to Eugene and is one of the world's most admired cool-climate regions for Pinot Noir. Influenced by the Pacific Ocean and protected by the Cascade and Coast ranges, it boasts a Mediterranean climate moderated by maritime breezes. This balance of sun and coolness promotes long growing seasons, critical for Pinot Noir's aromatic complexity and acid retention.

Fruit for the 2021 cuvée was sourced from nine vineyards spanning six sub-appellations, including the Dundee Hills and Eola-Amity Hills AVAs. Notable sites include Jory Hills Vineyard with its red volcanic soils, and the marine sedimentary soils of WillaKenzie Estate and Gran Moraine. Clonal diversity, including 114, 115, 667, 777, 828, and Pommard, adds layers of complexity. The 2021 vintage was marked by climatic extremes — ice storms, a record heatwave, and September rain — yet it yielded grapes of superb quality with **concentrated flavors and refreshing acidity.**

Winemaking

Grapes were hand-harvested and hand-sorted, reflecting La Crema's dedication to precision. A portion underwent whole-cluster fermentation, adding structural tension and aromatic lift. The remainder was gently de-stemmed, followed by a cold soak at 9° C for 2 to 4 days to enhance color and aromatic extraction.

Fermentation occurred in open-top tanks with varied cap management — punchdowns, pumpovers, and pulsed air — tailored to the characteristics of each lot. After fermentation, the free-run juice settled for two days before racking into **100% French oak barrels (20% new)** for six months of aging. The wine remained on lees until the final blend, showcasing **a detailed and expressive style with no racking before bottling**, preserving purity and site character.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Medium ruby with bright clarity and youthful edges.
- **Aroma**: Raspberry, cranberry, and orange zest intertwine with delicate floral notes of violet and a touch of savory spice.
- **Palate**: Supple tannins frame a core of red fruit and citrus, complemented by hints of cedar, fresh herbs, and earth. The finish is nuanced, long, and elegant.

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Did you know?

The name **La Crema Vinera** means "the best of the vine" — a philosophy that guides the estate's focus exclusively on **cool-climate Pinot Noir and Chardonnay**. The Willamette Valley bottling extends this legacy to one of the New World's most expressive terroirs.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Seared duck breast with orange gastrique**: Elevates the citrusy edge of the wine and balances its soft tannins.
- **Grilled salmon with wild mushrooms**: A classic Pinot pairing that mirrors the wine's earthy depth and supple texture.
- **Roasted beet and goat cheese salad**: Echoes the wine's red fruit and floral tones with vibrant acidity.
- **Herb-crusted pork tenderloin**: Highlights the wine's cedar-spice and savory complexity.

92 Wine Spectator

Wine Spectator (WS) : 92 Points (2022)

An approachable wine that captures the essence of Willamette Valley, with supple raspberry and cherry flavors that are laced with cinnamon and smoky spices as this persists toward refined tannins.

92 Wine Spectator

Wine Spectator (WS) : 92 Points (2018)

Sleek and vibrant, with snappy raspberry and red plum flavors accented by sweet basil and spice and finishing with fine-grained tannins.

91 James Suckling

James Suckling (JS) : 91 Points (2018)

Very pure fruit aromas with ripe cherry essence and some strawberry. The palate has a soft, creamy feel with a distinctive, kirsch-like core of flavor. Crunchy tannins cradle fluid fruit flesh. Drink now.