

# *Brittan Vineyards*

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## 2017 GESTALT BLOCK PINOT NOIR

Winemaker Robert Brittan, a wine industry veteran with over 45 harvests under his belt, has always had a passion for Pinot noir; a love affair that began in the 80's when he made several vintages under his Britt Hill label with fruit from Carneros. In 2004, Robert decided to leave Stags' Leap Winery in Napa and start a Pinot noir project in the cool climate of the North Willamette Valley.

### **BLOCK NOTES**

The Gestalt Block, a two-acre parcel planted primarily to Pinot noir selection 115, occupies the southwest flank of our hillside. The vines here are planted in shallow topsoil underpinned by a young, dense layer of intrusion basalt, and yield less than one ton of fruit per acre. The small, thick-skinned berries (a product of the Van Duzer winds) produce wines with a dark fruit core and pronounced phenolic intensity that showcase the essence of the vintage.

### **VINTAGE NOTES**

Akin to the prior three vintages, 2017 provided a consistently warm growing season for the vines at our estate vineyard, resulting in generous (for us) average yields approaching two tons per acre. Springtime flowering and fruit set, while delayed by a cool and wet winter, were even across the blocks and dry conditions at harvest meant little to no pressure from disease. The resulting wines are full bodied yet retain the mineral notes and taut core of acidity that have become the hallmarks of Brittan Vineyards.

### **TASTING NOTES**

In typical fashion, the 2017 Gestalt Block Pinot noir fully expresses the savory side of Brittan Vineyards. Tobacco, pea shoots, five-spice, licorice, gunpowder and flint show up alongside rich black plum, blackberry, dark cherry and black currant. This is a phenolic, tannin-driven wine with a long, complex and savory finish.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 276 cases

SELECTION: 115

ELEVAGE: 12 months in French oak, 27% new

DATE BOTTLED: December 12, 2018

ALCOHOL: 13.1%

SRP: \$60/ 750 mL

