

# 2018 Breezy Slope Vineyard Pinot Noir



**pH:** 3.72

**Titrateable Acidity:** 5.7 g/L

**Alcohol:** 14.3%

**Harvest Parameters:** September 24th, 2018 at 23.8 Brix, 3.46 pH, and 5.9 g/L of titrateable acidity.

**Blend:** 100% Pinot Noir, Breezy Slope Vineyard, clone 115. 21% new French oak, aged for 22 months. 50% whole cluster.

**Cases produced:** 70

**Release Date:** June 2021

**Winemaker's Notes:** Garnet in color, our perennial favorite opens with black cherry, raspberry, cranberry, and cinnamon on the nose. It continues with black pepper and forest aromas to round out an earthy expression of Walla Walla terroir. On the palate, cranberry, ripe strawberry, and cherry dominate and lead into a peppery, moderately tannic finish with bright acidity. The 50% whole cluster makes its presence known! Drink now through 2035.

**Winemaking:** Compared to Willamette Valley, we get riper fruit in terms of sugar and flavor plus darker color due to our sunlight and heat. After the fruit was picked early in the morning, it was destemmed into 1.5 ton fermenters with the addition of enzymes that increase color and aromatics and a SO<sub>2</sub> and ascorbic acid blend to control oxidation. As mentioned, half of the grapes were foot stomped for whole cluster fermentation. After two days of soaking on the skins, we added 3001 yeast and malolactic bacteria on day seven. The wine fermented for 9 days before being pressed to tank. A day later, the wine was racked into barrels to finish ML. When ML finished, SO<sub>2</sub> was added to protect from oxidation and microbiological spoilage. The wine was racked three times before it was bottled on August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 after crossflow filtration. The wine saw 21% new French oak for 22 months.

**Awards:** Platinum - 2021 Great NW Wine Platinum Awards

Gold - 2021 Cascadia Wine Competition

Gold - 2021 Bellingham Wine Competition

Silver - 2021 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition

Silver - SavorNW Wine Competition

91 pts - Owen Bargreen

18.5+/20 pts - Review of WA Wines (Rand Sealey)

86 pts - Wine Advocate (Anthony Mueller)