

Brittan Vineyards

2016 CYGNUS BLOCK PINOT NOIR

Winemaker Robert Brittan, a wine industry veteran with 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.

VINEYARD NOTES

The Brittan Vineyard lies just 12 miles southwest of McMinnville, tucked into the foothills of the Coastal Range. The original 18 acres were planted in 2001, but due to the challenging nature of this site and limited topsoil, only eight acres survived. Since 2004 when Robert and Ellen purchased the vineyard, it has been an ongoing rehabilitation project: replanting, retraining, and learning the unique landscape that has become Brittan Vineyard.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2016 vintage was one of the earliest in Oregon history. A warm winter and spring led to early budbreak, earlier bloom, veraison, and harvest. A brief period of heat during flowering resulted in a smaller than normal fruit set, with smaller clusters and berries. Unlike the previous warm vintages, the summer temperatures were milder, which yielded perfectly ripe, intense, and concentrated fruit.

TASTING NOTES

The 2016 Cygnus showcases enticing aromas of red plum, blood orange, brambleberry and warm spice with an underlying hint of tarragon. The rich palate confirms the nose, with red-fruit driven flavors of plum and raspberry, underscored with marionberry. The wine is seamless in the mouth, with an elegant and persistent finish that alludes to a long and graceful aging period.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 246 cases

SELECTIONS: Swan

ELEVAGE: 12 months, 35% new French oak

DATE BOTTLED: December 2017

ALCOHOL: 14.4%

SRP: \$65/ 750 mL

