

Brittan Vineyards

2016 GESTALT 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 Gestalt Block is rich on the palate, with a core of bright acidity and a firm structure that will carry the wine into a long and graceful aging period. Brilliantly garnet in color, the Gestalt block leads with aromas of pomegranate, coffee, black cherry, forest spice and fennel and true to its site, mineral and ash. In the palate, Brambleberry and orange zest combine with a warm blend of baking spice and black tea.

AVA: McMinnville

VINEYARD: Brittan Vineyard

CASES PRODUCED: 350 cases

SELECTIONS: 115, 667, 777

ELEVAGE: 12 months, 30% new French oak

DATE BOTTLED: December 11, 2017

ALCOHOL: 14.4%

SRP: \$60/ 750 mL

