

ERATH

WINERY

the Art of Pinot



APPELLATION

Oregon

BARREL REGIME

25% French oak (via Micro Oxygenation)

HARVEST

October 10 – 27, 2008

T. A.

0.6gm/100mL

PH

3.64

ALCOHOL

13.2%

2008 Oregon Pinot Noir

“Luminous like a sparkling gem, the ‘08 vintage of Erath’s Oregon Pinot Noir is a beautiful one. Bright cherry and juicy red plum aromas are lifted by a hint of exotic, zesty spice. The sweet entry leads to mouth-filling cherry pie, red currant and vanilla-coffee flavors that extend into a subtle smokiness and a long, luxurious finish.”

Gary Horner, Erath winemaker

WINE OVERVIEW

The “Oregon” Pinot Noir is the cornerstone of the Erath wine portfolio. A blend of different vineyard sites in Oregon, this wine is a fruit forward, ready-to-drink style of Pinot Noir designed to highlight the variety’s best characteristics. Our goal with this wine is simple - make the best Pinot Noir in the world for under \$20.

VINTAGE OVERVIEW

If there’s one word to describe the 2008 harvest, it would be “late.” The season got off to a late start throughout Oregon, with bud break, on average, 10 days to two weeks behind schedule. The subsequent growing season was consistently cool, which delayed the start of harvest and extended it through the end of October.

Significant amounts of rainfall can occur in Oregon in October, putting our entire crop at risk. (This has happened less frequently over the past decade, but remains an ever-present threat.) Concerned that our grapes might not reach full maturity in such a cool year, we thinned the crop several times late in the season to accelerate ripening. (The fewer the grape clusters, the faster they ripen.) Fortunately, as in the late season of 1999, our 2008 harvest was blessed by dry, mild weather throughout the critical final weeks of October. Clusters left hanging on the vine achieved optimal maturity, displaying intensely concentrated color and flavors. With lower yields, but fully ripe, high-quality fruit, the 2008 vintage produced extraordinary wines with bright fresh fruits, and great color and structure.