

2013 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir
(Pommard, 113, & 115 Clones)
AVA: Willamette Valley
Alcohol: 12%
pH: 3.7
TA: 6.5
Cooperage: 22 months
French oak
Production: 200 cases
Price: \$28

WINE SPECTATOR
91 points (November 2016)

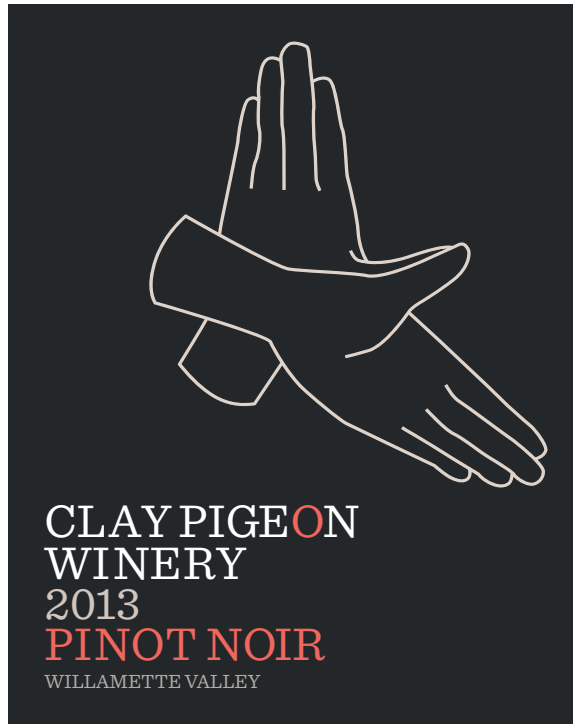
“Dark, dense and focused, with a light layer of chewy tannins around a core of cherry, licorice and pepper flavors. The elements keep humming on the finish, revealing a savory edge.”

WINE ENTHUSIAST
90 POINTS (JUNE 2017)
“Good grip is immediately apparent, along with a burst of tangy citrus and cherry fruit. Sour plum comes up as well, and it’s clearly the fruit, not the barrels, that are in the center ring. A high-acid finish keeps it fresh and lively.”



**CLAY
PIGEON
WINERY**

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The fruit for our 2013 Willamette Valley Pinot is entirely from Mistletoe Vineyard outside of Dallas, Oregon. We have worked with Mistletoe since 2009, when we were making wine in our garage for friends and family, and have evolved our relationship over the past six years.

Being fans of minimal intervention, we hand sorted, destemmed, and cold soaked the grapes for 2 days before fermentation. We hand punched the must in one-ton, open top macrobins and gently pressed. The wine was then transferred to 2-4 year old French oak.

Even with Pinot Noir, we prefer our wines with a bit of age; allowing them to shed some fruit and show secondary notes and depth. We let our Pinot age for 22 months before bottling unfiltered and unfined.

The 2013 vintage has strong color, good acid, bright fruit, and an easy finish. Hints of cherry and strawberry prevail on the nose; spice and

cedar box rounding out the palate of this vintage. We love this wine with duck or salmon and it also pairs beautifully with aged sheep’s milk cheeses.

MISTLETOE VINEYARD was founded by Roger and Karen Vlasak in 1986. In 1999, after preserving the most abundant plots for vineyard production, Roger planted the lower thirteen acres in grapes of the Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris varieties. In 2007, he increased his production by planting an additional seven acres at a higher elevation, which combines another premium soil type native to other outstanding vineyards in the region, along with the ideal Southwest facing slopes.

The lower vineyard is made up of 78% Willakenzie silty clay loam and 22% McAlpin silty clay loam. The younger, upper vineyard site’s soil at a higher elevation is composed of 80% Belpine silty clay loam, 7% Dupee silt loam, and 13% Jory silty clay loam.