



RIBBON RIDGE
WINERY



2021 RIDGECREST ESTATE PINOT NOIR

RIDGECREST VINEYARDS | RIBBON RIDGE AVA | WILLAMETTE VALLEY | OREGON

ABOUT THE VINEYARDS

Ridgecrest Vineyards is dry-farmed sustainably according to **LIVE** (Low Input Viticulture & Enology) standards.

Established - 1980 | **Planted** - 1982 - current

Elevation - 480 - 690ft | **Acreage** - 120 total | 41 planted

Of those planted acres, almost 25 are Pinot Noir, including Pommard (52%), Wadenswil (16%) and Dijon Clones 115 (10%), 667 (11%) & 777 (11%). The earliest plantings, own-rooted vines planted in 1982.

VINTAGE NOTES

2021 looks excellent - of course, through the smoky rear-view of 2020, it isn't hard. Despite a growing season with searing heat spikes (116F), 2021 was a moderate vintage, beginning harvest the third earliest time in the last two decades, and ending in less than a month, October 5th. It was a "wait-until-they're ripe" vintage with a welcome splash of rain midway in September, after grapes were largely picked - just to prove we're Oregonians.

Based on full-ripeness AND generally very good acidity, 2021 may ultimately resemble 2018 in concentration, and 2008 in crop yield. Small and precise, leaving us wishing we had more to share.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Our flagship Estate Pinot Noir is easy to be proud of this year. 2021 was generous in the flavor and concentration section, and a little bit less generous for the quantity, but all that really matters is the quality in the bottle, right? Upfront, this Pinot is bright and translucent, with a jewel-quality deep ruby color, and a magnificent aroma you can smell without even being fully submerged in the glass. There are accents on the nose of cigar box and charred wood, iron, bright Bing cherry, graham cracker, and burnt orange. First taste is light on palate, with freshness and a mineral-driven juicy core of fruit, but the length shows addition complexity and depth, smooth like gelato, dusty summer berry firmness and texture, and finishing with dried flowers, Five Spice, and black currant. 2021 Pinot Noir will be one for the ages, lasting only as long as you can keep your hands off it, but worthy of decades of age, with some restraint.

TECHNICAL DATA

Abv - 13.4% | **TA** - 5.8 g/L | **pH** - 3.51

AGING - 9 months 17% new, 50% 1-yr, 33% neutral French oak | 21% whole cluster fermentation

CLONES - 70% Pommard/Wädenswil, 30% Dijon 667/777

VINES - 70% 39-yr-old own-rooted, 30% 17-yr-old

PRODUCTION - 420 CASES | **RELEASE** - September

2023 | **ENJOY** - NOW-2032

92 WE | **16.5+ JR**





Harry Peterson-Nedry | Founder



Wynne Peterson-Nedry | Winemaker/Proprietor



Ridgecrest Vineyards | Ribbon Ridge AVA
Willamette Valley | Oregon

When we first set foot on Ribbon Ridge in 1980, we knew it was something special. There was an indefinable magic to the place, in the low-slung, rolling hills that rise and fall like the breath of a slumbering child. It was undeniably alive, and bursting with potential.

In 1980 folks thought we were just plain nuts to plant wine grapes on that chilly rise located on the western edge of the Willamette Valley. The common thought at the time was that the site was situated too far west for grapes - too windy, too foggy, too cool.

We naively followed our gut, planting the first vineyard on what would one day become one of the premier wine appellations in Oregon, the Ribbon Ridge AVA. Ridgecrest Vineyards did not disappoint. Early barrel samples were encouraging. We studied it, continued to plant, and dug deeply.

Crafting our cellar-worthy RR wines since 2002, we know these vineyards – the ins and outs, strengths, and peculiarities of each and every block. We've done our homework.

Now, it's recess. We're ready to come out and play.*

Our new RIDGECREST label allows us to do just that – to experiment with all of those blocks, lots, and barrels that beg our attention every harvest – the ones we are loathe to blend with others, because they are just so damned intriguing. Pinot Noir will be the mainstay, with supporting roles played by Gamay Noir, Grüner Veltliner, Pinot Gris and Riesling.

Harry Peterson-Nedry

Harry Peterson-Nedry

Wynne Peterson-Nedry

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*Follow our progress from barrel to bottle,
from yurt to winery at ribbonridgewinery.com.*

*as much as two nerdy chemists have the capacity to do.