

STRAIGHT SHOOTER

VINT 2020

WILLAMETTE VALLEY PINOT NOIR



VINTAGE: Yields for most varieties from Oregon, including Pinot Noir, were down in 2020. Wide temperature swings and wet conditions in May and June contributed to a light fruit set. A warm summer continued through September until wildfires hit the west coast. While fires were widespread, smoke characteristics in wines from the 2020 vintage are highly variable and site-specific. Even though the quantity of grapes harvested was lower, the quality of fruit that was picked has been outstanding. Smaller clusters and berries gave great color and concentrated flavors at desired sugar levels with good acidity.

WINEMAKING: The fruit was 80% destemmed and underwent an indigenous ferment in stainless steel open top tanks. The grapes were “infused” as whole berries and 20% as whole clusters at a moderate temperature, in an oxygen rich environment until pressed. The wine then matured in French oak barrels for 12 months, 10% of which were new.

TASTING NOTES: Floral notes of dried rose petals and fresh picked red fruits play with touches of cinnamon and nutmeg on the nose. Generous flavors of red cherry and raspberry swirl with subtle notes of vanilla. This wine graces the entire palate with smoothly textured tannins and ends with a spiced, pleasant finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: Not yet reviewed. 2019 vintage: 89 pts Wine Spectator

ABOUT MAISON L'ENVOYÉ: Driven by a tireless hunt for elusive sites where Pinot Noir shines, Maison L'Envoyé, “The House of the Messenger” traverses the globe with the intention of presenting the acme of regionality and winemaking styles. With winemaking footprints in Burgundy, Willamette Valley, Central Otago and Tasmania, we champion many unsung growers who have farmed their vineyards for decades and generations, some mere feet away from more illustriously cited neighbors. This project has been a standout since our debut in 2011 including Wine & Spirits naming Maison L'Envoyé a ‘Winery To Watch’ in 2015.



CONSULTING WINEMAKER	Felipe Ramirez
REGION	Willamette Valley, Oregon
VARIETALS	Pinot Noir Clones: Pommard/114/115/777/Wadensvil/667
AVAs & VINEYARDS	The fruit for Straight Shooter was hand-harvested from selected vineyards planted in sedimentary and volcanic soils in Willamette Valley’s sub-AVAs, Eola-Amity Hills and McMinnville.
MATURATION	12 months in 100% French oak (10% new)
ALCOHOL	13.9% alc/vol