



## 2021 Jessie Vineyard Pinot Noir



Jessie Vineyard, first established in 1994, was named for founder Paul Gerrie's paternal grandmother Jessie Sommers Gerrie. Dramatically steep in places with a diverse range of volcanic soils and strong influence from Pacific Ocean winds, Jessie may be the most distinctive vineyard site on the Cristom estate. It is the only vineyard at Cristom that all vine rows are planted in an east-west orientation and entirely planted at 2,311 vines per acre. The dense planting creates competition amongst neighboring vines, forcing roots deeper into the soil helping to derive greater character and sense of place in the wines. The vine rows planted with the slope of the steep hillside prevents terracing and naturally helps to protect the fruit from the afternoon sun preserving bright fruit and floral aromatics. Perhaps the most challenging vineyard to farm on the Cristom estate, these 11.5 acres of Pinot Noir situated in the mid-slope of our east facing hillside, produce some of the most seductive and complex wines we craft.



### WINEMAKING

52% whole cluster  
 100% hand-harvested and hand-sorted fruit  
 100% native yeast fermentations  
 1-3 punch downs daily with occasional pump-over  
 1.5 - 5 ton open-top fermenters  
 Pressed to tank, settled overnight and then moved to barrel  
 Full malolactic fermentation in barrel  
 Aged 18 months on lees  
 38% new French oak barrels  
 Unfined & Unfiltered  
 ALC 13.5%      TA 5.5 g/L      pH 3.51  
 ESTATE BOTTLED March 16th, 2023  
 PRODUCTION 792 cases

### VINEYARD SOURCE 100% Jessie Vineyard

ACRES 11.53 (4.67 hectares)  
 ELEVATION 345 feet to 565 feet (105 m to 172 m)  
 SOILS Columbia River Basalts, including: Jory, Saum, Nekia, Gelderman, Ritner and Witzel  
 ASPECT east; southeast  
 ESTABLISHED 1994  
 VARIETAL Pinot Noir  
 CLONES Pommard, 115, 113, 114, 777, 667  
 FIRST VINTAGE 1998

**Vintage Notes** The 2021 vintage may come to be defined by the near storybook ending to the growing season that allowed the vines to preserve fresh fruit characters in concentrated clusters and achieve greater balance in the wines in one of the driest years in company history. Intermittent rains during a cool bloom period led to extremely small berries and small clusters that are concentrated in flavor and structure; often defining characteristics of a quality year. There were extreme heat spikes in 2021, but thoughtful vineyard practices preserved the small, fragile berries and the fruit looked pristine coming to the winery. The cooler than average weather in August and September helped the growing season to finish with 2,475 growing degree days (*GDD*), which is near our exact average heat accumulation since 1992. Though it was an unusually low water year, we did have around 1.5" of rain fall in the middle of vintage which helped young vines and even older vines planted in our shallowest volcanic soils to gain more hang time. In the fermenters, native fermentations kicked off with vigor and produced energetic wines notable for their effusive fruity esters. Overall, the 2021 vintage may reveal itself to be one of the greats of the last ten years.



**CRISTOM**  
 VINEYARDS

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