

# WAYS

OF WAYFARER

## 2023 PINOT NOIR PRINCE HILL VINEYARD

**TASTING NOTES** | The first release of our Oregon Pinot Noir reveals a remarkable sense of place, redolent of the red, iron-rich soils of Dundee Hills. On the nose, tiny alpine black raspberries, dried rose petals, black tea and toasted spices are joined by a streak of weathered iron – a trademark characteristic of the appellation. On the palate, the wine displays vibrancy and depth, with a supple, powdery tannin structure culminating in a lengthy, juicy, mineral-laden finish.

**VINTAGE NOTES** | The 2023 vintage in Dundee Hills was characterized by gentle sunshine and fair weather throughout the season, far removed from the usual rain and cold spells preceding harvest in the region. Both budbreak and harvest in Dundee are usually 2-4 weeks behind Sonoma County, but 2023 saw an unusually early harvest where primary fermentation was complete prior to picking our coastal Wayfarer vineyard in Fort Ross-Seaview. The tannin and structure created by Dundee Hills volcanic soil was beautifully rounded by the perfect weather, creating a wine of elegance and refinement.

**WINEMAKING NOTES** | Each of our designated rows was picked by hand at night, and the clusters were delivered to the winery at sunrise. We hand-sorted and fully destemmed the fruit before transferring it into stainless steel tanks for three days of cold maceration. Fermentation was carried out by native yeast, and we punched the cap down by hand, with the frequency and technique determined by tasting each tank daily. The free run wine aged in 228L French oak barrels, 40% new, for 10 months prior to bottling.

**ABOUT** | The Prince Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir breaks new ground in the Pahlmeyer story, a long-held dream brought to life. Cleo has deep connections to Oregon; she spent summers there as a child, where she met her future husband, Jamie Watson, and today her family lives part time in Neskowin on the Oregon coast, just minutes from Willamette Valley's most prized vineyards. Cleo realized her aspiration to make Oregon wine with the opportunity to work with fruit from the historic Prince Hill Vineyard in the esteemed Dundee Hills AVA. Famed Willamette Pinot Noir pioneer Dick Erath planted the property in 1983 with his signature Clone 95, a cutting he brought to Oregon from Clos Vougeot in Burgundy. With its red volcanic Jory soils and sun-catching southeastern exposure in this otherwise cool and damp region, Prince Hill Pinot Noir is distinctive for its expressive elegance and silky, powdery tannins.

ORIGIN	Prince Hill Vineyard, Dundee Hills, Willamette Valley, Oregon
BLOCKS	1B, 2F
CLONES	95, Mount Eden
WINEMAKER	Todd Kohn
PRUNING	Double guyot
HARVESTED	September 16, 2023
BOTTLED	July 7, 2024
ALCOHOL	14.1%
pH	3.61
TA	5.3 g/L
PRODUCTION	126 cases