

Nicolas-Jay Estate press

Date	Wine	Vintage	Periodical	Score	Notes
12/1/2016	WV P Noir	2014	Wine Enthusiast	94	*Editors' Choice* A stunning debut for this new boutique, a joint project between Jean-Nicolas Méo (Domaine Méo-Camuzet) and Jay Boberg, co-founder of the music label, IRS Records. Deep and penetrating fruit flavors of blackberry and raspberry are buttressed by ample, proportionate acids and tannins. There's a graceful touch of fresh herb, along with black tea and clean loam.
3/1/2016	WV P Noir	2014	Wine Spectator	93	#96 in Wine Spectator's Top 100 of 2016* Broad, expressive and light-footed, this brims with cherry, plum, licorice and cashew flavors that keep singing on the focused finish. Drink now through 2024.
11/1/2016	WV P Noir	2014	Vinous	92	Deep bright red. A complex, highly perfumed bouquet evokes ripe red fruits, cola, Asian spices and rhubarb, plus a suave floral topnote. Juicy and focused on entry, then broader in the midpalate, offering appealingly sweet, supple red and dark berry and spicecake flavors and suggestions of candied flowers and mocha. Finishes sappy and very long, displaying repeating spiciness and smooth, slow-building tannins. This is quite an impressive wine for a "basic" bottling, much less a freshman effort.
7/1/2016	Bishop Creek P Noir	2014	Wine Spectator	93	Broad, expressive and light-footed, this brims with cherry, plum, licorice and cashew flavors that keep singing on the focused finish. Drink now through 2024. Top 100 #96
4/1/2016	Bishop Creek P Noir	2014	Wilford Wong	95	One of the world's finest Pinot Noirs, this wine stands tall on the global stage! Exquisite and well-orchestrated, this is an amazing wine. When I first sniffed this wine, I was struck by its incredible purity. The vineyards and the Willamette Valley AVA spoke to me with brilliant and focused clarity and had me asking for more. Deep garnet in color, the nose offered enticing red and black fruit, with a distinct dried, savory herb note, black earth or black tea notes, and a definite wildness about it. Medium bodied on the palate, sweet tannins are present to protect the wine as it ages. Medium acidity, well balanced; beautifully choreographed flavors of red to black fruits, a dash of dried earth and savory herbs, a spice box of natural pleasures; medium finish, youthful aftertaste.
4/1/2016	Bishop Creek P Noir	2014	Wine Enthusiast	94	A stunning debut for this new boutique, a joint project between Jean-Nicolas Méo (Domaine Méo-Camuzet) and Jay Boberg, co-founder of the music label, IRS Records. Deep and penetrating fruit flavors of blackberry and raspberry are buttressed by ample, proportionate acids and tannins. There's a graceful touch of fresh herb, along with black tea and clean loam. Editors' Choice.
3/1/2017	Bishop Creek P Noir	2015	Wilford Wong	94	Sophisticated, urbane, and pure, the 2015 Nicolas-Jay Pinot Noir expresses Willamette Valley authenticity. The wine exhibits red to blue fruits, with a streak of minerality. Its refined palate pairs it well with seared wild salmon.
3/1/2017	Bishop Creek P Noir	2015	Wine Enthusiast	93	The second release from this impressive new project is a touch lighter than the previous vintage, but just as well built. Blending grapes from four different sub-AVAs, this shows a sleek and detailed mix of fruit—strawberry, plum and cherry—married to just the right amount of new French oak (one third of the barrels). Editors' Choice.
12/1/2017	WV P Noir	2015	Suckling	94	Fresh wild strawberries, cloves, nutmeg, and black cherry essence. The palate is dark-fruited with round tannins, fine acidity and a fruity finish. Layered and polished
10/1/2017	WV P Noir	2015	Wine Enthusiast	93	The second release from this impressive new project is a touch lighter than the previous vintage, but just as well built. Blending grapes from four different sub-AVAs, this shows a sleek and detailed mix of fruit—strawberry, plum and cherry—married to just the right amount of new French oak. *Editors' Choice*
12/1/2017	WV P Noir	2015	Decanter	90	2015 was another warm vintage in the Willamette Valley, but this regular Nicolas-Jay Pinot is a touch more restrained than its older sibling. Notes of smoke, rich soil and wild berry fruit precede a bright, fine-grained and textural wine with more energy than the inaugural vintage.
6/1/2018	WV P Noir	2015	Jancis Robinson	17/20	Combines only-just-ripe cranberry fruit with glossy oak scent and lots of violet aromas too. Black cherry on the palate – big fruit intensity, but not at the expense of aromatic complexity. Lots of ageing potential. 17+/20 points.
10/1/2017	WV P Noir	2015	Wine Spectator	91	A lovely and delicately complex wine, with expressive violet and raspberry aromas and harmoniously layered cherry, floral tea and stony mineral flavors that glide through a long finish
2/19/2019	Bishop Creek P Noir	2016	Vinous	93	Bright red, pungent, floral and spice accented aromas of dark berries, cola and incense, lifted by a smoky mineral quality. Sappy, focused and subtly sweet, offering palage-staining, well-concentrated black raspberry, cherry cola and violet partille flavors and an exotic touch of Moroccan spices. The Floral smoke notes come back strong on the mineral-driven finish, which clings with excellent tenativity and gentle tannic grip.
7/1/2019	WV P Noir	2016	Wilford Wong	95	Some wines steal your heart, and the first vintage of Nicolas Jay—the stunning 2014 vintage brought me to my knees, begging for more. The 2016 vintage (just like the outstanding 2015 vintage) makes a powerful statement on how extraordinary the Willamette Valley can be. TASTING NOTES: This wine stands on its pedestal as one of the most impressive Pinot Noirs in the world. Enjoy its outstanding aromas and flavors of red and black fruits, savory spices and chalk, and enticing earth and stones.
8/1/2019	WV P Noir	2016	Wine Spectator	94	Precise, deeply structured yet graceful, with expressive black cherry, river stone and black tea accents that build richness toward refined tannins. Drink now through 2024.
9/1/2019	WV P Noir	2016	Suckling	93	Really lovely cherries and brambly raspberries, graphite and red flowers on the nose, leading to a rich and dark, deep, plush and spicy palate that has a very pure core of satiny, silky fruit flavor.
2/19/2019	WV P Noir	2016	Vinous	92	Brilliant red, highly perfumed, spice-accented aromas of dark berries and cherry pit, with violet, musky rhubarb and woodsmoke flourishes building in the glass. Offers bitter cherrym black raspberry, floral pastille and spicecake flavors that show very good concentration. A snap of juicy acidity provides back-end lift. The cherry and floral notes build steadily through a very long, penetrating finish that's supported by chewy, slow-mounting flavors.
10/1/2019	WV P Noir	2016	Wine Enthusiast	92	Young and a bit chewy, this brings a nicely-layered mix of orange peel, almond paste, black cherry, saffras and cola, all in good proportion. Those well-integrated components are further highlighted with a streak of iron ore and graphite. The complexity is already impressive, and seems sure to improve with age.

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2/19/2019	Montazi P Noir	2016	Vinous	93	Vivid red, pungent cherry, black raspberry, floral and underbrush aromas are energized by vibrant mineral and exotic spice notes that build in the glass. Palate-staining, gently sweet cherry cola, dark berry and spicecake flavors. Show impressive depth as well as vivacity. Licorice and bitter chocolate notes emerge on an impressively long, penetrating finish shaped by dusty, steadily building tannins.
2/19/2019	Nysa P Noir	2016	Vinous	94	Deep shimmering red. Powerful, mineral and spice-accented red fruits and candied flowers on the expansive nose. Palate-staining raspberry, bitter cherry and spicecake flavors pick up a hint of vanilla and turn sweeter with aeration. Shows impressive clarity and spicy thrust on a very long, red-fruit driven finish framed by fine-grained, harmonious tannins.
7/1/2019	Nysa P Noir	2017	Suckling	93	"dark-cherry aromas sit amid dried wood, spices and bracken with a layer of leaves and earth here, too. The palate has quite a plush and smoothly succulent feel with an elegant, long and lithe, dark-cherry core that finishes impressively focused and fresh."
7/1/2019	Bishop Creek P Noir	2017	Suckling	93	"Very attractive aromas of violet flowers and blueberries sit in a fresh array of earth and spice complexity. The palate has a sleek and fluid build with a very polished core of fresh, fine tannin."
7/1/2019	Montazi P Noir	2017	Suckling	95	"a very impressive pinot that has a spirited, lively style with abundantly fresh and fleshy red cherries, as well as dark peaches and nectarines."
2/1/2020	Bishop Creek P Noir	2016	Decanter	94	100 cases were made of the 2016 Bishop Creek Pinot Noir, from Domaine Nicolas-Jay's estate vineyard. Poised and patient at first, aromas are driven by red and citrus fruits with a subtle woody quality in the background. The palate is silky and focused, with an elastic texture not unlike a bungee cord, snapping into an explosive and multi-faceted finish. A kingpin of the Nicolas-Jay lineup.
2/1/2020	Own-Rooted P Noir	2017	Decanter	94	A blend of entirely non-grafted vineyard sites, this own-rooted blend takes the purity of forest, citrus and red fruit notes found in the other wines to another level. It feels like a lid came off that you didn't know was on in the first place. It's seductive, enticing and three-dimensional, with notes of root beer, clove and struck match.
2/1/2020	WV P Noir	2017	Decanter	93	High-toned and damp, this wine displays aromas of wet earth, Earl Grey tea and cocoa nibs, followed by flavours of pomegranate and red plum skin. It's classic Oregon Pinot Noir, and one can see the Méo-Camuzet influence, albeit with a softer generosity. The blend is based around Bishop Creek Vineyard, with smaller portions of other sites including Hyland, Knight's Gambit and Hopewell.
2/1/2020	Montazi P Noir	2016	Decanter	93	Montazi is the most savoury and structured Pinot in the Nicolas-Jay portfolio. It displays aromas of conifer and rose petals, as well as a meaty note reminiscent of porchetta. The palate is edgy and firm, with a long, focused and nuanced finish that slowly builds in intensity. This went from being initially reticent to beautifully expressive quite rapidly. 80 cases produced.
2/1/2020	Nysa P Noir	2016	Decanter	93	Perfumed, fine and elegant, Nysa exudes aromas of cherry blossom and rose water. The texture is deft and its complexity sneaks up on you, with notes of nectarine skin and tangerine appearing long after the wine has left your palate. The majority of the Nysa Vineyard was planted in 1990 to own-rooted Pommard clones. 80 cases produced.
4/1/2020	WV P Noir	2017	International Wine Report	93	The 2017 Nicolas-Jay Willamette Valley Pinot Noir is a gorgeous release from this Willamette Valley winery. Aged in largely neutral oak, the nose evokes some wonderful freshness with bright red fruits that mingle with citrus zest and wet stone tones that mingle in the glass. The silky texture entices as ripe strawberry and guava flavors enter the fray, mixing with shades of Mandarin orange zest and earthy undertones that shine brightly on the palate. This is seriously good now and will only improve with cellaring.
4/1/2020	WV P Noir	2017	Apstein on Wine	93	There's a winsome Burgundian sensibility to their 2017, which combines lacy red fruit notes with savory ones. It has the hallmark of what I call "flavor without weight," which makes Pinot Noir, especially this one, such an alluring wine. The tannins are very fine, lending support without harshness. A hint of sweetness in the finish reveals its New World origins. It would be a perfect choice for the Thanksgiving table.
6/1/2020	WV P Noir	2017	Wilford Wong	92	Medium ruby color; bright red fruit and mineral notes in the aroma, lively, medium depth, excellent persistence; medium bodied, layered and textured on the palate; dry, medium acidity, very good balance; bright fruit and savory spices in the flavors, medium intensity; medium finish.
6/1/2020	Bishop Creek P Noir	2017	Wilford Wong	93	Medium ruby, garnet color; ripe red and blue fruit aroma, excellent depth and brightness; medium bodied, racy on the palate, fine energy; dry, nice acidity, well balanced; frisky red fruit flavors, light spicy note; lively aftertaste.
6/1/2020	Own-Rooted P Noir	2017	Wilford Wong	94	Medium ruby, garnet color; black fruit aroma, quite rich, attractive, serious; medium bodied, layered and slightly elevated on the palate; dry, medium acidity, well balanced; bright red and black fruit flavors; medium to long finish.
6/1/2020	Affinités Chardonnay	2018	Wilford Wong	92	Medium straw, light yellow color; savory spice, ripe fruit aroma, fine richness, excellent; medium bodied, nice acidity, well balanced; dry, fine acidity, well balanced; ripe peach skin, dried earth, persistent flavors; fine aftertaste.
8/1/2020	Bishop Creek P Noir	2017	Vinous	95	Shimmering ruby-red. Heady, spice- and mineral-accented cherry and blue fruit liqueur aromas take on incense and floral accents with air. Juicy, seamless and concentrated, offering densely packed black raspberry, boysenberry and cherry liqueur flavors that show sharp delineation and smoky back-end thrust. Finishes extremely long and lively, with resonating blue fruit, mineral and floral notes and polished tannins that make a late appearance. 50% new oak.
8/1/2020	Nysa P Noir	2017	Vinous	95	Bright ruby. Highly perfumed, smoke- and spice-accented red berry liqueur, licorice and floral pastille scents show excellent definition and pick up an exotic spice nuance as the wine opens up. Sweet and expansive on the palate, offering deep raspberry, cherry cola, candied rose and spicecake flavors that show silky texture and vibrant mineral lift. Weighty yet energetic in style, finishing smooth and very long, with well-judged tannins and resonating florality. 50% new oak.
8/1/2020	Own-Rooted P Noir	2017	Vinous	94	Deep magenta. Expansive red and blue fruit, floral and spice scents are underscored by emerging mineral and succulent herb flourishes. Firm and focused in the mouth, offering bitter cherry, boysenberry, candied rose and cola flavors that unfurl steadily through the midpalate. Shows good depth and energy as well, finishing very long and gently chewy, with fine-grained tannins adding framework and final grip. 50% new oak.

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8/1/2020	WV P Noir	2017	Vinous	93	Deep, glistening red. Sexy, assertively perfumed aromas of fresh red fruits, potpourri and baking spices, with a hint of cola in the background. Juicy and focused on the palate, Jay's 2017 Pinot Noir offers vibrant raspberry, bitter cherry, blood orange and rose pastille flavors and a late jolt of spicy white pepper. Made in a fresh, exuberant style, with silky tannins sneaking in slowly to add shape and grip to the impressively long, spice-accented finish. Aged in 30% new oak.
9/1/2020	Bishop Creek Chard	2018	Wine & Spirits	93	An older planting of mostly pinot noir in the rain shadow of the Coast Range, Bishop Creek has 2.5 acres of chardonnay, farmed organically, on sedimentary soils. It's a generous wine, with high-toned lemon-lime scents deepening with air to something more wheaty and substantial, like pineapple. But the flavors remain tart and lively, with a kind of bakedlime rim of flavor suggesting richness and raciness at once. Energetic and lively, this is built to age.
11/1/2020	Montazi P Noir	2017	Wine Enthusiast	93	Many wineries purchase and feature Montazi grapes, but this wine, more than most, captures their essential character. It's concentrated yet restrained, showcasing the "earth-driven characteristics" cited on the back label. Brambly berries, sweet hints of tomato, citrus avors in abundance and a pleasant hint of fresh greens complete a supple and impressive wine with ample length and detail.
11/1/2020	Bishop Creek P Noir	2017	Wine Enthusiast	93	Bishop Creek is the estate vineyard, now two decades old and coming into its prime. This is a wine to stash and savor down the road a bit. Currently it's tight and firm, lightly herbal, detailed and impeccably balanced with a mix of wild berries, citrus and soil. Drink 2022 through the rest of the decade and perhaps beyond.
11/1/2020	WV P Noir	2017	Wine Enthusiast	92	A continuing exploration of French winemaking technique applied to Oregon terroir, the latest releases from Nicolas-Jay show a savvy complexity that rewards your focused attention. Here the strawberry fruit is accented with avors of composted earth, coffee grounds and cocoa powder, all wellintegrated and proportionate. The wine is supremely tasty right from the start, and should continue to provide pleasure during the course of this decade.
11/1/2020	Affinités Chardonnay	2018	Wine Enthusiast	92	Luscious, beautifully balanced fruit avors blend citrus, apple and lemon curd, along with a light suggestion of greens. As the rst Chardonnay release from the winery, it is complete, refreshing and elegant. Editors' Choice
11/1/2020	Affinités Chardonnay	2018	International Wine Report	92	
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