

NICOLAS JAY



2019 Bishop Creek Vineyard Pinot Noir

Yamhill-Carlton - Oregon

WINERY

Nicolas-Jay Estate is a Pinot Noir and Chardonnay venture located in the Dundee Hills region of Oregon's Willamette Valley. Celebrated Burgundian winemaker, Jean-Nicolas Méo of Domaine Méo-Camuzet, and renowned music and media entrepreneur, Jay Boberg, lend their individual talents and shared dedication to the winery, where traditional French winemaking meets quintessential Oregon terroir.

VINEYARD

Located in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA, the site features 13.5 planted acres, with 11 of those acres being four different clones of pinot noir. The majority of the pinot noir vines at Bishop Creek were planted in 1988 and 1990, and are own-rooted. Adding to the site's diversity, the elevations range from 270 to 600 feet, with predominantly North-South plantings. In keeping with their belief in stewardship and promoting a healthy vineyard environment, Bishop Creek has been farmed 100% organically since being acquired by Jean-Nicolas and Jay in 2014.

VINTAGE

2019 began with a cold late winter that warmed quickly into a warmer than average spring. The defining feature of the growing season, however, was not in the timing of rainfall, but the amount. 2019 gave us record rainfall in late June and July, causing a delay in ripening and an abundance of growth in the vineyards. The low temperatures were normal to above average but without the usual heat spikes and intensity of the usual record Oregon summer heat waves. A beautiful dry August pushed the grapes toward maturity while maintaining balance and acidity through ripening. Early rains in September slowed things down, finally abating and finishing the growing season with a long, cool and dry Fall. The resulting wines have elegance, finesse and balance in what is one of the first cool Oregon vintages we've seen at the domaine. The aromatics and bright nature of these wines make them compelling to drink now and also speak to their aging potential as they open up and develop in bottle. We bottled this vintage a few months earlier than usual to preserve the beautiful elegance of the vintage.

WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES

Now over 30 years old, this vineyard is just now reaching its stride in producing hauntingly unique wines that few vineyards can parallel. The 2019 Bishop Creek opens up with wet stone, crushed granite and generous brambly blackberry. Underlying the fruit and minerality are subtle roasted meat and game aroma, toasted nut and a general savory essence as the wine begins to crack open in the glass. There is an exotic middle eastern spice, a sweet bark and resin nuance with a by-line of black cap blackberry that pulls the flavors upward with strong tannins and a long, dramatic, tight-knit finish that carries for several minutes. This wine will age for years to come as the tannins integrate and the fruit fleshes out in the bottle.

STATS

Farming: Organic

Harvested: September 14, 2019

Harvest Brix: 21.4

Alcohol: 13.0%

TA: 5.0g/L

pH: 3.65

Fermentation: Native Yeast

Fining/filtration: None

Cooperage: 50% new French oak

Date bottled: February 5, 2021

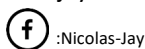
Cases made: 288

Winemakers:

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Tracy Kendall

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