

NICOLAS-JAY ESTATE 2021 PINOT NOIR, WILLAMETTE VALLEY

The Winery

Nicolas-Jay Estate is the story of a three-decade friendship between Burgundian winemaker Jean-Nicolas Méo and music entrepreneur Jay Boberg. Jean-Nicolas was the architect and innovator behind the rise of *Domaine Méo-Camuzet* as one of the most sought-after and collectible producers in the last 30 years. Wines of exquisite texture, persistence and density that also precisely represent the landscape and terroir in which they would come from. With this natural understanding of viticulture and wine, combined with the mastery of prestigious terroirs left by his family and developed by himself, Méo-Camuzet rests amongst an elite few in benchmark level wines and the lofty status the *Domaine* enjoys in Burgundy today. Jay Boberg would bring more than his share of innovation and inspiration to the table as the two set forth in the early 2010's on this quest to produce top-quality Willamette Valley wine together. Jay's visionary approach for his own craft, signing and producing iconic bands, would bring an eye and approach to the partnership unlike few other duos in the wine industry. The Co-founder of the seminal indie label *IRS Records* in the early 1980's to President of *MCA/Universal records*, would find him fostering and launching bands such as *R.E.M.*, *The Go-Go's*, *Blink-182*, *Mary J. Blige*, *Sublime*, *The Roots* and *B.B. King*.



The Wine

Nicolas-Jay bottled its first vintage of the Willamette Valley cuvee in the 2014 vintage, and we haven't looked back since then. The vineyard sourcing has changed since that first vintage, but the essence has always remained the same; Locate the most expressive vineyards in the valley, farm them gently and sustainably and produce a Pinot Noir that is pure, fresh and symbolic of this place. The decades of experience Jean-Nicolas Méo has in farming many of the world's most sought-after wines has allowed him to understand how texture, aromatics, persistence and power can be bound together into one wine experience. The Willamette Valley Pinot Noir represents this aptitude.

Harvest

The beautiful 2021 vintage began with a warm dry winter followed by a wet and cool late Spring. Grape ripening slowed down and the very healthy and abundant fruit began showing signs of ripeness in early September. Harvest was beautiful and dry with only one small rain event toward the end, ideal for a successful vintage. The fruit was pristine and yields were abundant, leading to moderate alcohol levels and bright acidity.

Winemaker Tasting Notes

A beautiful garnet color is the first indication of a dense, concentrated harvest. It's stunning at first approach with red cherry, black tea and subtle splashes of toasted clove, spices and citrus aromas. The fruit is crunchy and wet at this early stage, but a core of cinnamon spice and light menthol arrive to intermingle with these cold-pressed red fruit elements as the wine begins to stretch out. Alert acidity on the front-end gives way to granite, medium-weight tannins. It's round on the palate, but shifts into a compression of red bush fruits, orange citrus and sandalwood that presses for minutes but still finds a way to maintain an elegant canter so typical of this celebrated cuvee.

| Vineyard | AVA | Vine Age | Contribution | Farming |
|--------------|-----------------|----------|------------------------------------|---------|
| La Colina | Dundee Hills | 22 years | "Pomegranate, clove, black tea" | LIVE |
| Bishop Creek | Yamhill-Carlton | 35 years | "Power, granite, blue fruits" | Organic |
| Tery | Yamhill-Carlton | 17 years | "Black cap blackberry, minerality" | Organic |
| Nysa | Dundee Hills | 34 years | "Elegance, red fruits, spice" | Organic |
| Hopewell | Eola-Amity | 17 years | "Blue fruits, floral, wet stone" | Organic |
| Cherry Grove | Tualatin Hills | 22 years | "Lavender, citrus, rose petal" | LIVE |



Harvested: Sept 8-26
Harvest Brix: 21.8
Alcohol: 13.5%
TA: 5.3 g/L
pH: 3.47
Winemaking: Native yeast
Fining / Filtration: None
Cooperage: 25% new French oak, 16 months
Date Bottled: April 27, 2023
Production: 22 barrels

