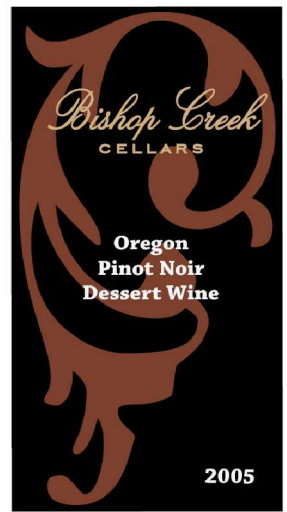


2005 Bishop Creek Cellars Dessert Wine North Willamette Valley, Oregon

"The natural depth and intensity in Bishop Creek grapes resonates in this dense, rich, penetrating dessert wine."

- Marcus Goodfellow, Winemaker



Tasting Notes

The 2005 Dessert Pinot Noir has intense plum and blackberry on the nose layered with brown sugar, violets, and red earth with sweet spice. In the mouth, there is a lush round texture, sweet fruit in the middle with a very long intense fruit finish.

Winemaking Notes

This extremely small production run was pulled from the Wadensville block in 2005. As the best of the fermenters reached 8 degrees Brix, (Brix is a measure of fermentable solids, primarily sugars in the must and roughly equivalent to percent) a small amount of must was seined off and fortified with 165 proof grape neutral spirits from Clear Creek Distillery. The wine was aged in neutral containers, a small percentage of older wood and bottled after 15 months.

Bishop Creek Vineyard

Location: 2 miles north of the town of Yamhill, in North Willamette Valley, Yamhill County, Oregon.
Acreage: 15 of 66 acres currently planted: 12 of Pinot noir, 3 of Pinot gris, and a small new block of Pinot blanc. Tight spacing, mostly 5'x5'.
Year Planted: The main vineyard in 1988, and the Pinot Gris in 1995
Soil Type: Willakenzie
Elevation: 300-700 feet
AVA: Yamhill-Carlton District

Vintage Notes

The 2005 growing season in the Willamette Valley was, yet again, a unique set of challenges. After beautiful early spring weather, we were deluged with heavy rain during bloom. Because of this, pollination was impeded and a poor fruit set resulted in a very small crop. However, after that first soaking, we were rewarded with a near perfect summer and early fall. Warm days and cold nights in late August and early September provided great flavor maturity, while restraining sugar levels. A fit of poor weather as the grapes approached readiness required some patience before picking, but it was patience well rewarded. The resulting wines have a sleek elegance and the compact structure of dancers rather than the lush muscularity of the 2003 vintage.