



ST. INNOCENT

PINOT NOIR

Villages Cuvée

PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY
ST. INNOCENT WINERY, SALEM, OREGON, BW-OR-144
ALCOHOL 14% BY VOLUME. CONTAINS SULFITES.

2016

Willamette Valley, Oregon

2016 Pinot noir

Villages Cuvée

Release Date: November 12, 2017

Production: 2,640 cases

Harvested: September 13-24th, 2016

Bottled: September 2017

Alcohol: 13.5%

**Suggested Pairings:
Salmon, quail, pork
tenderloin and pasta
dishes**

**Aging Recommendation:
Up to 6 years**

**Available Bottlings:
750mL**

Vineyard Notes

Our Villages Cuvée is produced from Pinot noir grapes grown in Oregon's northern Willamette Valley. At its core are grapes grown at Vitae Springs Vineyard, a cool site on thin volcanic soil located in the hills south of Salem, Oregon. Fruit from other sites are blended to create a Pinot noir that complements rich white meat and fish dishes. To enhance this match, we blend to maximize both the spectrum of flavors and length on the palate while minimizing the use of new oak. The composition for this bottling is: Vitae Springs Vineyard 28%, Zenith Vineyard 43%, Freedom Hill Vineyard 11%, Temperance Hill Vineyard 4%, and Momtazi Vineyard 14%.

Production Notes

The de-stemmed grapes were fermented in small stainless and Burgundy oak fermenter with no SO₂, allowing fermentations to proceed naturally. After gentle pressing and settling, the wine aged in French oak barrels, 19% of which were new, for 12 months before bottling by gravity without fining.

Vintage Notes

2016 was the third in a string of warm summers and early harvests. It produced the smallest crop of the three. The harvest began with a bit of heat and dehydration in the fruit. This immediately resolved with cooler temperatures and the rest of the harvest produced well balanced fruit with lovely flavors and ripe tannins. We finished picking at the end of September, producing a total of 10,200 cases. In general 2016 produced lush, early-drinking wines with lovely aromatics and accessible fruit, spice and floral notes. They can be aged and are quite accessible in their youth.

Tasting Notes

The 2016 Pinot noir, Villages Cuvée has robust sweet spice aromas with lovely black cherry, smoky berry and dark rose notes. Juicy and pungent flavors of dark cherry, wild strawberry, allspice, cinnamon with a touch of smoke fill your mouth. Beautifully balanced with soft tannins and fresh acidity, the finish slowly fades into supple dried fruit and spices. Still young now the wine will fill out through the winter and into the spring. This is my favorite wine for thanksgiving and flavorful white meat dishes. It is just as good with burgers, brats and pizza. Enjoy now through 2022.