

2019
L'Altra Pinot Noir
Dundee Hills AVA
Willamette Valley, Oregon



Vintage:

This year saw a growing season cooler on average than what the last few years had us accustomed to, bringing a total heat accumulation similar to 2005, one of my favorite Willamette Valley vintages. Regrettably, precipitation, which was fairly moderate prior to harvest, increased by mid-September especially at our estate vineyard in Dundee. The decision to harvest had to be hastened, as Botrytis was showing its ugly head. A slow and painstaking sorting process in the vineyard and winery allowed us to only keep the most pristine clusters. Our quest for quality affected yield, resulting in 20% less wine from our old Dundee vines that year. The silver lining is that our Trovato vineyard in Yamhill was not hit as hard by the rains, which means there will still be plenty of Furioso wines to go around. Looking back, we think the decision to harvest earlier was the right one, as we avoided catastrophe, not only from the rain but also from the migratory birds which came earlier that year and devastated some vineyards in Oregon. Altogether, this will be a vintage to cellar for Pinot Noir as the wine, tight and austere in its youth, will need a few years in the bottle to fully express itself.

Tasting Notes:

A true cherry color in glass, the 2019 iteration of our L'Altra is ripe with notes of juicy Italian plums, cranberry sauce, and hints of tangerine. Following its fruity beginnings then, is a more rustic backbone of woody cedar and fresh rosemary. While young, the palate shows off a wonderfully pure expression of fruit, though never cloying - its notes of luscious rainier cherries, blueberry, and soft cinnamon are livened by a powerful acidity and evolving yet vibrant finish. This wine would find a happy home next to a cedar plank salmon, or a lavish spread of Mediterranean dishes. Representative of its cooler vintage, the 2019 L'Altra demonstrates tremendous ageability and we recommend drinking now through 2030.

Vineyards:

Furioso Vineyard, Dundee Hills, Willamette Valley, Oregon (estate)

Winemaking:

Case Production: 326 cases

Production: 100% destemmed, wild fermentation

Barrel regimen: 10 months in 25% new French oak

ABV: 12.5%

Drink 2021-2030

Suggested Retail - \$61

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Furioso Vineyards

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