

# KATE ARNOLD



## **AVA**

Willamette Valley

## **VARIETAL CONTENT**

100% Pinot Noir

## **OAK REGIMEN**

100% French oak; 3-7 years old

## **ELEVAGE**

11 months

## **CASES PRODUCED**

5,752

## **ABV**

13.6%

## **SUGAR**

Fermented dry, no added concentrate

## **FOOD PAIRING**

Roast duck with seared mushrooms

## **CONTACT**

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## TASTE PROFILE

- COLOR** / Translucent ruby.
- AROMAS** / Cherry, red plum, raspberry, and lavender.
- FLAVORS** / Fennel, Mission fig, plum, date, blackberry, and forest floor.
- STRUCTURE** / Very round mid-palate with bright acidity.

## VINEYARD SOURCES

*Elkhorn Ridge - Willamette Valley AVA*

*Tukwila Vineyards - Dundee Hills AVA*

*Sisu Vineyards - Dundee Hills AVA*

*Riverside Vineyards - McMinnville AVA*

## 2020 VINTAGE REPORT

With an unusual start to this vintage – an unexpected heatwave and pandemic in early spring – the 2020 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir is unique. Originally, given the early high temperatures, we anticipated this vintage to be similar to that of 2016, but as the weather began to cool off, it quickly started to look like a more typical year in the Willamette Valley.

The valley experienced some rain and wind during bloom which affected growth across the board. We were left with a much lower anticipated yield. Fortunately, though, lower yields can produce higher quality fruit, concentrated flavors, and better-tasting wines. Summer remained much cooler than recent years, meaning that the fruit would need more hang-time to achieve its full ripeness. Fortunately, the heat eventually came and lasted through the first week of September.

As if this year had not been tumultuous enough, an extreme easterly wind warning was issued for Oregon at the beginning of September. Winds reaching up to 50 mph fueled and spread the onset of wildfires and soon enough, virtually the entire state was covered in a thick smoke plume. Like many other winemakers, we were faced with a difficult decision of whether to prematurely pick our fruit or wait out the conditions in hopes of improvement. We chose to wait, and luckily, our decision proved itself to be the right one. Willamette Valley has multiple elevation changes throughout, so the smoke was essentially diverted away from our vineyards. Our fruit remained untainted by the smoke and the 2020 vintage proved to be as good as ever.