

# Phelps Creek

V I N E Y A R D S

## 2023 “Le Petit” Pinot Noir Columbia Gorge

### WINEMAKER COMMENT

Inspired by the winemaking style of the French Beaujolais, but utilizing those traditional techniques with the elegant and noble Pinot Noir grape; this 100% Estate grown Pinot Noir invokes a crunchy texture full of fresh young fruit.

### PHELPS CREEK VINEYARDS

The most westerly vineyard on the Oregon side of the Columbia Gorge AVA, Phelps Creek is nestled amongst the foothills of Mt Defiance at 1200 feet elevation. Established in 1990, our small boutique winery focuses on estate grown Pinot Noir and Chardonnay varietals, annually producing 5,000 cases of wine in total. Vineyard care takes center stage in our wine production, where sustainable agricultural practices combined with careful management of the fruit yields on the vines lead to the noted luxurious intensity within our bottle. Phelps Creek Vineyards is now LIVE Certified, Salmon Safe and Bee Friendly, choosing and implementing sustainable practices in our farming techniques

### VINTAGE

The season began and progressed in sync with the “old normal!” Bud break arrived the first week of May and after an early June bloom, we forecasted harvest starting the last week of September. A long, lingering season seemed poised to bring us well structured and flavorful fruit. Lynette and I thought the timing allowed us to slip off to Bordeaux—after all, those who work in wine need to vacation in wine. Just about the time we landed in France a heat wave enveloped Oregon. Suddenly our September 18 harvest date crept forward to the 15th, our travel home date, as the ripeness of our blocks accelerated. Our crackerjack team kept us informed and sprung into action, bringing in the first grapes of the season while the happy owners reclined in Delta business class heading west. Sometimes life is extraordinarily good.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

This uniquely youthful wine, made of 100% Estate grown fruit, is produced through whole-cluster, carbonic maceration. A method which incorporates dry ice into a full cluster fermentation, allowing individual grapes to ferment within the berry. The resulting wine expresses a fresh, crunchy texture with low tannins.



### TASTING NOTES

Scents of strawberry and spice lace the nose. This distinctive Pinot Noir with its bright acidity and low level tannin soon becomes the favorite red wine of the summer. This extremely youthful wine pairs with nothing better than sunshine! With a light chilling it beautifully bonds alongside a piece of grilled Salmon accompanied by seasoned spring asparagus.

### BOTTLE NOTES

Harvest Date: October 4, 2023

Brix at Harvest: 26.3°

Clonal Selection: Dijon 115

100% Whole Cluster

Carbonic Maceration

3 Months Stainless Tank

Alcohol per Volume: 13.9%

Bottling date: 2/29/2024

Case Produced: 288