



J. CHRISTOPHER 2018 Bella Vida Vineyard Pinot Noir

A complex and evocative Pinot Noir that beautifully expresses the floral elegance of the Red Hills of Dundee.

The Bella Vida vineyard is one of our favorite sites in the heart of the Dundee Hills. With its deep red Jory clay and its stunning view of the Willamette Valley, this vineyard consistently produces exceptional fruit that captures the essence of this beautiful place on earth. The 2018 shows the richness and earthy complexity of the vintage, but still has the finesse and fine tannin structure that are characteristic of these hills.

ABOUT THE 2018 VINTAGE

We had another very warm and dry year in 2018, the eighth hottest on record. But it was not as hot as the previous two years, and there were no extreme temperature spikes. This made for a balanced growing season with much less heat stress. As in 2017, cooler weather and a bit of cleansing rain came to us in September, which helped slow down the ripening, while retaining freshening acidity. The wines are characterized by fruit that is rich and dense, but not overripe, supported by juicy acidity and a fine, ripe tannins.

ABOUT J. CHRISTOPHER

J. Christopher is a line of wines that elegantly capture the distinctive character of Oregon's Northern Willamette Valley. Owned by internationally renowned winegrower, Erni Loosen (also owner of Appassionata Estate, where the wines are produced), the focus is on expressive Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Riesling and Sauvignon Blanc made using the patient, unhurried approach of the Old World. Fruit for J. Christopher Wines is sourced from excellent growers in several different sub-appellations of the Willamette Valley. With a deep commitment to environmentally sustainable farming and production practices, the mission of J. Christopher Wines is to produce terroir-driven wines in an age-worthy style that emphasizes finesse, length and balance.

TECHNICAL INFO

Appellation: Dundee Hills

Vineyard Source: Bella Vida Vineyard

Soil Type: Volcanic

Clones: Wädenswil, Dijon 115 & 777

Age of Vines: 20 to 25 years

Viticulture: Sustainable

Average Yield: 2.5 tons per acre

Vinification: 100% destemmed; native yeast fermentation; unforced malolactic; 18 months in barriques (25% new); no fining or filtration.

Alcohol: 13.5%

Total Production: 145 cases

UPC: 810404020227

FROM THE PRESS

[93] Wine Enthusiast

"Optimal ripeness in this vintage adds power and depth to the classic black-cherry flavors. The tannins have a touch of clay and finish with a burst of chamomile tea."
February 2022

[92] Vinous

"Ripe red and dark berries, candied flowers and allspice on the fragrant nose, along with cola and smoky mineral nuances. Juicy and animated on the palate, showing very good energy to the raspberry, boysenberry and spicecake flavors." February 2022

