



Willamette Valley Pinot Noir

Anna Marie Vineyard (Oregon's Walla Walla Valley)

# J. CHRISTOPHER 2022 Lunatique Rouge

## This cuvée combines the elegant, fruity notes of Pinot Noir with the bold, structural complexity of Syrah to honor Old World traditions.

This pairing of seeming opposites is not crazy, it's delicious! Burgundian producers, prior to French wine label regulation changes in the 1920s, often blended Syrah with their Pinot Noir to enhance the nature of the vintage. Syrah from eastern Oregon is rich and aromatically expressive which highlights the red fruit flavors of Pinot Noir grown in western Oregon. This wine is playful yet balanced and will complement a wide range of cuisines.

#### **ABOUT THE 2022 VINTAGE**

2022 started off with a bang, or should we say frost. At first we had the worst-case scenario in mind — something that had not been seen in 40 years. We thought that we may have lost 50 percent of the potential crop. Fortunately, mother nature worked her magic and we ended up being down only 20-25 percent. With the loss not as significant as we feared, and with plenty of extra fruit that we contracted in anticipation, we ended up with one of our largest harvests ever. What had started as a bad dream ended up making beautifully balanced wines that enjoyed plenty of hang time on the vine and excellent flavor development.

#### **ABOUT J. CHRISTOPHER WINES**

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:** Oregon

Blend: Pinot Noir (61%), Syrah (39%)

Vineyard Sources: Willamette Valley Pinot Noir, Walla Walla Syrah (Oregon side of the AVA)

Soil Type: Volcanic and sedimentary Viticulture: Sustainable and Organic

**Vinification:** 100% destemmed; native yeast fermentation; unforced malolactic; 18 months in barriques (20% new); no fining or filtration.

**Alcohol: 14.0%** 

**Total Production:** 479 cases