

# 2016 Prince Hill Pinot Noir

Dundee Hills AVA



## Winemaker's Notes

Deep ruby red in color, this superb vintage presents us with the very best the Dundee Hills has to offer. Silken red fruit, nutmeg and clove, fresh cut rose petals, and minerality are woven together by seamless tannins. Balancing elegance and power, this wine has a delicate texture and bright aromas leading to a long dusty finish.

## Technical Notes

Harvest date:	09/17-20/2016	AVA:	Dundee Hills AVA
Brix:	23.8°	Blend:	100% Pinot Noir
pH:	3.68	Aging:	10 Months
Alcohol:	14.2%	New Oak:	49%
RS:	0 g/L	Skin contact:	16 days

## The Vintage

For the third consecutive year, the Willamette Valley was treated to a near-perfect vintage. With higher spring temperatures leading to the earliest bud-break on record, it looked to be a challenging run ahead. But with cool and consistent weather throughout the ripening period, 2016 looks to trump even the much lauded 2014 and 2015 vintages.

As sugar levels rise in the fruit, the acidity levels decrease. Due to the longer hang time after fruit set, this process was slowed and acidity levels remained optimal when harvest arrived. This allowed for a degree of finesse and elegance in the wines, more so than the opulent 2015's. Balanced acidity makes for fresher and crisper white varietals, and allows the Pinot Noirs to age beautifully for years to come. Considered a "giving" vintage both in quantity and quality, look for approachable wines now that will continue to reward as time goes on.

## The Soléna Story

After successful careers in the Oregon wine industry, the husband and wife team of Laurent Montalieu and Danielle Andrus Montalieu purchased an 80-acre estate to commemorate their marriage. In May 2002, they launched Soléna by releasing their first bottling and, shortly thereafter, opening a tasting room in Carlton. Soléna is the combination of the Spanish and French words Solana and Soleil, celebrating the sun and the moon, and the name that Laurent and Danielle gave to their daughter.

Soléna Estate began as a way to explore winemaking with other varietals grown in neighboring appellations while the family's young Domaine Danielle Laurent vineyard in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA matured. In May 2007, Danielle and Laurent added the spectacular Hyland Vineyard in the McMinnville AVA to their estate vineyard holdings. Today Laurent and Danielle are producing world-class Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from their estate vineyards.

