



Goosepen Block Estate Pinot Noir

2016

Our story began in 1971 when our parents, Susan Sokol and Bill Blosser, first planted vines in Oregon's Dundee Hills. As second generation winegrowers, we are passionately committed to our family's legacy of creating world-class wines, through sustainable methods, which express our distinctive hillside vineyards.

—Alex & Alison Sokol Blosser

VINTAGE HIGHLIGHTS

It was a dark and stormy night...and that was just the first day of 2017! Yes, 2017 started out like a number of Oregon vintages have started out: cold, wet and rainy. In fact, to start out 2017 we had snow. Snow shut down the winery for a number of days in January and this cold weather foretold the following cool spring. Bud break was late in relation to the past 5 years (late April instead of early April), but more normal when you look at our 40+ growing seasons. The cool, wet weather was not to last, and the heat volcano erupted in mid-June to the tune of 95°F! Thanks to the wonderful deluge of wet weather in the winter and spring of 2017, our vines were able to handle the scorching hot summer. Our underground barrel cellar reached temps we have never seen before (in the 70s) and the expanding wine pushed some bungs out. The cool spring helped push out harvest, but the hot summer helped make sure the grapes were ready to go with little delay. We picked over a six week time period, which is a week or so longer than normal due to the rain events. The crop was huge — one of the largest we have seen since 2014. The fruit was ripe and very clean, boding well for quality.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were carefully hand harvested on September 23rd at 23°Brix and de-stemmed into two oak upright fermenters and one 3ton stainless steel open top fermenter. All fermentations were initiated by our house yeast isolated from the Goosepen block in 2013. The fermentations were gently punched down twice daily at the peak of fermentation. All fermenters were pressed off at dryness to capture the rich dark fruit characters found in the small block of Goosepen block.

Goosepen was aged in 100% French oak. Eighteen barrels were hand selected for the final blend. The blend was aged in 28% new oak.

WINE PROFILE

Our 2016 Goosepen Block Estate Pinot Noir exhibits fragrances of caramelized orange and star anise lead to cranberry jelly, raspberry and currant on the palate. Soft tannins on the finish

PAIRINGS

This wine pairs really well with hearty fall favorites, such as duck confit crepinette, alongside root vegetable gratin.

THE STORY

When Alex Sokol Blosser (our winemaker) was growing up, this block was not planted to pinot noir, but to riesling. During this time Bill and Susan Sokol Blosser tried their infamous and failed experiment of fencing it in and releasing a flock of geese to consume the grass. Since then, the Sokol Blosser's have always called it "Goosepen." When we had to re-plant the block due to Phylloxera, it was decided that the highest and best use of that site was for pinot noir and not for riesling. This was not a failed experiment. To this day, Goosepen is Alex's favorite of our single vineyard blocks. It does not have the rich tannins of its northern neighbor, Big Tree, nor the finesse of the Orchard Block. It has fruit. A lot of rich fruit that can be heavy some years (2014) and complex in other years (2012 and 2015). Drinking a glass of Goosepen always reminds Alex that experimenting is a two edge sword; sometimes you get the goose, and sometimes the goose gets you!



APPELLATION

100% Dundee Hills AVA

BLEND COMPOSITION

100% Pinot Noir | 100% Estate Grown

CLONES

Pommard UCD4

AGE OF VINES

Replanted in 1998

BOTTLED

March 2019

BRIX AT HARVEST

23°

ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

13.5%

PROPER CELLAR LIFESPAN

10 -15 Years

PRODUCTION

550 Cases

CERTIFICATIONS

Made with 100% certified organic grapes

SUGGESTED RETAIL

\$80