

99 West

Willamette Valley Pinot Noir 2023

- **91 points, James Suckling**
- **90 points, Wine Enthusiast**

Grapes: 100% Pinot Noir

Tasting Notes: Aromas of black cherry, sweet earth, rose petal, sage, and leather. The palate has notes of black currants, loads of spice, bramble, and marionberry. Silky and sweet tannins on the finish.

Aging: Aged in French oak, 25% new, for nine months.

About the Winery: Willamette Valley is known around the world as a top region for Pinot Noir production. What sets Oregon Pinot Noir from Californian and French is the maritime climate, the individual seasons are rarely severe, with rain falling primarily from late fall to late spring. As a result of less sunshine & cooler conditions, 99 West will be lighter in color, fruitier, and more delicate than a California Pinot Noir. This item is called "99 West" in reference to the OR-99W highway that runs from Eugene, OR to Vancouver, OR, crossing through the west side of the Willamette Valley.

James Suckling: *"A spiced, lightly savory red with red cherries, orange peel and hints of wet stones. Medium-bodied and broad in the mouth, it's nicely framed with firm, lightly chalky tannins. It's earthy and there's an austere touch to the finish. Drink now or hold."*

Wine Enthusiast: *"Forget about getting your kicks on Route 66. It's mighty fine on Highway 99 when it comes to Pinot Noir. An earthy aroma of flint and oregano kicks things off, followed by pie cherry and cedar notes. The wine's tart blackberry and black tea flavors are lightly sweetened by a bit of brown sugar. You can expect a rich mouthfeel and firm tannins."*

