

# 2022 HIGHGROUND PINOT NOIR

### DOE RIDGE ESTATE VINEYARD YAMHILL-CARLTON

Established in 2003, The Four Graces is committed to making rich, complex wines where the fruit may be elegantly expressed. Our Highground Pinot Noir is one of four featured wines in our Reserve Graces tier: our Four Graces. "Highground" is named for the location of where the grapes for this wine are grown at the very top of our Doe Ridge Estate vineyards in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA. These topmost vines are grown in a unique "diagonal" row orientation to capture the most sunlight every day. Each "Grace" in this series highlights the climate, land and fruit characteristics of our individual estate vineyards.—Tim Jones, Winemaker



#### **VINTAGE**

2022 will be remembered for the challenging but rewarding growing season in the Willamette Valley. April frosts impacted much of our Northern Oregon vineyards in the Willamette Valley, reducing yields in some of our vineyards by as much as 30%. While the growing season was challenging in the spring, we were rewarded by a moderate summer and beautiful, dry autumn. Harvest at Doe Ridge Estate vineyard began about 3 weeks later than 2021 starting in late September and finishing in October. Fermentation was in open top tanks and cap management was accomplished by gentle punchdowns with an average time of 19 days on skins. After primary fermentation the wine was then transferred to French oak barrels where it completed malolactic fermentation and aged for the next 14 months.

## **VINEYARD**

All fruit for the Highground Pinot Noir was sourced from our Doe Ridge Estate. On this property we continue to execute our sustainable winemaking practices. In addition to sustainable farming, the vineyard is LIVE certified and Salmon Safe. This wine is sourced from Blocks 16 and 17.

## TASTING NOTES

The 2022 Highground Pinot Noir is vibrant and deep ruby in color. On the nose, complex aromas of cedar and underbush are complemented by hints of baked cherry and red currants. The palate delivers a seamless texture and layers of black tea and baked cherries. This elegant wine with silky tannins pairs well with salmon, soft cheeses, and charcuterie.

#### TECHNICAL DATA

Appellation: Yamhill-Carlton
Vineyard Source: Doe Ridge Estate

Varietal Composition: 100% Pinot Noir; Clones: Pommard and 777

Aging: 14 months in 18% new French oak —

Boutes, Sylvain, Seguin Moreau, & Rousseau barrels

 Alcohol:
 14.1%

 pH:
 3.78

 Case production:
 400