

Lia's Vineyard LLC
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Groove Club Shipment #15 - What's in the Box?

This shipment highlights the 2017 vintage in pre-release. After three hot vintages in a row, the 2017 vintage was heralded as a "return to normalcy" with budbreak April 17th, bloom on June 20th and our final pick at Lia's Vineyard on October 11th. We had a very long dry spell of 56 consecutive days without precipitation during July and August, but just enough rain and a cooling trend came along at the end of the season allowing the fruit to ripen slowly with cool nights and mornings preserving acidity. These pinots will benefit from additional aging and/or aeration/decanting for the next year or so.

Longplay 2017 Pinot Noir, Lia's Vineyard (2 bottles)

We continued to use more 115 like 2016, and a couple barrels of Pommard and Wädenswil. But unlike previous years there is no Mariafeld. This is a tasty wine with more depth and sophistication than one might expect from our entry-level wine. 368 cases produced.

Longplay 2017 Pinot Noir, "Jory Bench Reserve," Lia's Vineyard (2 bottles)

This bottling is a combination of Block I, my favorite block of Pommard selection, and Blocks 4 and 5, old Wädenswil selection. This wine is "the real deal" and has impressed tasters with its length and freshness. As expected, this wine has the classic Jory soil hallmarks of red fruit and a floral nose. There is a really nice texture and prettiness to this wine that makes it one of my favorites. 149 cases produced.

Longplay 2017 Pinot Noir, "Hi-Tone," Lia's Vineyard (I bottle)

Hi-Tone is my favorite barrels of Wädenswil. In December 2017, I wasn't sure we would bottle Hi-Tone from the 2017 vintage, but as the wines developed two barrels really stood out and demanded that I lable them as Hi-Tone. No new oak, just delicious wine. Only 49 cases produced.

Longplay 2017 Chardonnay, "Jory Slope," Lia's Vineyard (I bottle)

For 2017, I think we made perhaps my best Chardonnay ever. The fruit is ripe yet refreshing and the full flavors are balanced with spice and a wonderful long finish that just screams "Chardonnay"! A mere 41 cases produced.