

Longplay

Lia's Vineyard * Chehalem Mountains

Lia's Vineyard LLC
Mail: PO Box 414
Newberg, OR 97132
Phone: 503.489.8466
email: info@longplaywine.com
www.longplaywine.com

Groove Club Shipment #19 - What's in the Box?

This shipment provides a look at the 2018 vintage pinots. It was a balanced growing season. Warmer and drier than typical, but cooler and wetter than, e.g., the “hot” 2014 and 2015 vintages. There were no super hot temperature spikes and we had really nice weather for harvest, allowing the luxury of picking when the fruit was ready rather than having the weather force the picking decision. I may have been a day or two late with my picking – lesson learned. The wines are a bit richer and more plush than 2017 (which remains one of my favorite vintages), and should hold appeal for both pinotphiles and casual tasters alike. I find the wines enjoyable and think the Lia's Vineyard and Hi-Tone bottlings are among the best wines we've made to date. We picked the Jory Bench on October 7th and the other pinot vines on October 6th.

Longplay 2018 Pinot Noir, Lia's Vineyard (2 bottles) This is a cross section of the entire vineyard with a little bit of everything in it. It is predominantly 115 clone but also includes some Mariafeld, 777, 114, and a bit of juice from a 30 percent whole cluster Wädenswil fermenter and a 115 fermenter that was 100 percent whole cluster. I think this bottle really shows how blending can elevate a wine with the sum of the parts being superior to the components. One new barrel, so five percent new oak. 552 cases produced.

Longplay 2018 Pinot Noir, "Jory Bench Reserve," Lia's Vineyard (2 bottles) Block 1, my favorite block of Pommard selection, and Blocks 4 and 5, old Wädenswil selection, are the cornerstone of this bottling. In 2018 we included one barrel of 115 clone to add a bit of “lift” to the wine. It has the classic Jory soil hallmarks of red fruit, floral nose and a broad, fat palate. There is one new barrel in the mix, so just 10 percent new oak, which is a bit less than usual. This is a full-bodied wine that will benefit from a bit more time in bottle. 249 cases produced.

Longplay 2018 Pinot Noir, "Hi-Tone," Lia's Vineyard (1 bottle) This is a subset from the Jory Bench. I love this wine for its texture and the red fruit notes. For the first time since 2014, a new barrel was used in the Hi-Tone bottling so we're 25 percent new wood (same as 2014). This is almost always my favorite bottle from the vintage. 100 cases produced.

Longplay 2019 Chardonnay, "Jory Slope" Lia's Vineyard (1 bottle) In 2019, we picked the Chardonnay on September 21st. At first I thought this was way too early, but after some time in bottle the wine has really knit together and I love the pretty floral notes and freshness. 46 cases bottled.