

# Longplay

Lia's Vineyard \* Chehalem Mountains

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## **Groove Club Shipment #26 - What's in the Box?**

It's time to fall back, so we're revisiting some wines from the 2015-2017 vintages. 2015 was a warm vintage, but the wines seemed fresher than 2014 which was also hot. They have tended to hold up well. 2016 was also warm and many wines from 2016 were more tannic and savory than the fruitier 2015s. 2017 was an excellent vintage with fewer hot days during ripening. We only have a few cases left of some of these wines so this is the last chance you'll have to taste many of them.

I really like drinking older pinots and I hope you will appreciate how wines develop and age as you share and enjoy these wines.

## ***The standard shipment includes one bottle each of the following six wines:***

### **Longplay 2015 Pinot Noir, Lia's Vineyard**

This is a cross section of the entire vineyard with a little bit of everything in it. "Safety School" block of 777 and Block 6's 114 make up the bulk of the bottling, along with Mariafeld and a little bit of Pommard and Wädenswil. I sometimes get a bit of heat on the palate, so let it breathe and serve slightly chilled (around 56 degrees). It shows some nice floral notes and elegance. 256 cases produced.

### **Longplay 2016 Pinot Noir, Lia's Vineyard**

This is a tasty wine with some lovely fruit flavors, loads of spice, and a juiciness that I really like. It has more tannin and more savory notes than the 2015. Mostly 115, some Mariafeld and a couple barrels of Pommard and Wädenswil. 259 cases produced.

### **Longplay 2017 Pinot Noir, "Jory Bench Reserve," Lia's Vineyard**

This bottling is a combination of Block 1, 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 a stunner. 149 cases produced.

### **Longplay 2015 Pinot Noir, "Hi-Tone," Lia's Vineyard**

This has always been one of my favorite wines. It has a hedonistic quality I find enjoyable. There is a note of fennel that balances the fruit on the palate, and I've described the intriguing texture as "lacey." The finish is long and lingering. This wine has zero new oak, and no second-fill barrels, so the Wädenswil fruit really is the star. These vines remain my favorite in the vineyard. 72 cases produced.

### **Longplay 2016 Pinot Noir, "Hi-Tone," Lia's Vineyard**

This edition is richer than 2015 and more resembles the 2014 Hi-Tone. A bit rounder, fatter and savory. The nose is floral and the finish long. It tastes a bit more tired than the 2015, but tends to improve with a bit of air. No new oak on this wine. 71 cases produced.

### **2023 "Pixie," Bubbly Rosé of Pinot Noir, Lia's Vineyard**

This is from a block of 828 clone that grows on the west side of the vineyard. This block had always given me problems because its proximity to tall Douglas fir trees on the property line meant it was cooler and very popular with birds. I decided to use it for rosé, which would mean picking before the birds got to it and the cooler spot would be a benefit by helping make a more refreshing wine. The wine fermented beautifully in a small stainless steel vessel. It was delicious, but a bit lean. It had almost no color. I recalled "Pixie," a delicious bubbly wine we made in 2018 from a lot of rosé that would benefit from carbonation, so I decided to add bubbles (and, for color and texture, about five gallons of red wine from the '23 vintage). The result is even better than the 2018 edition of Pixie, with lovely aromatics and a silky texture. A refreshing wine to be shared over the coming holidays. 78 cases produced.