

2014 "Trajet Reserve" Pinot Noir



Production: 94 cases (4 barrels)

Winemaker: Steve Ryan

AVA: Chehalem Mountains AVA, Willamette Valley

Vineyard blocks: Primarily from the cooler Eastern-facing blocks

Clones: Dijon 667, Dijon 115, Dijon 114, Pommard

Barrel aging: 18 months, French oak, 70% new

Alcohol: 13.9%

"Trajet" is a journey into something new for Le Cadeau Vineyard. In both the vineyard and the winery we have set no limits – all possibilities are open. The result during the 2014 harvest was a 4 barrel fermentation of 85% whole-cluster grapes, native yeast, and the patience to wait while it aged for 18 months in 70% new French oak. It is rich and deep yet surprisingly soft on the palate, with well integrated tannin that anticipates very long-term ageability. We seek excellence, yet we know that with adventure comes risk. Therein lies the thrill of the journey.

After gaining his degree in soil science from University of Minnesota, winemaker Steve Ryan had the privilege of working as head winemaker of Martinelli in the mid-90s. While recently running the custom crush facility Rack & Riddle in Healdsburg, he focused on biodynamic research in Hopland, CA while making small-production cuvees from California and Oregon, including the highly regarded Le Cadeau "Côte Est" Pinot Noir since 2007. Now settled into his new home in Oregon, Steve's production is being crafted out of Carlton, OR beginning with this 2014 vintage.

Tasting Notes – Bright red-berry flavors, herbal and white pepper accents, with a subtle floral note from the whole-cluster fermentation. (adapted from Wine Enthusiast's 91 point review.)