

2009 Wildaire Cellars Pinot Noir Reserve

The 2009 Pinot Noir Reserve is a selection of the best barrels in the cellar and was aged for 10 months in 33% new French oak. It offers up an enticing nose of anise, cinnamon, clove, floral notes, and assorted red fruits. In the glass it reveals a forward personality, sweet fruit, a supple texture, and good balance. This medium-long effort will have a drinking window extending through 2019.

WildAire Cellars is a virtual winery that purchases sustainably grown fruit and makes the wine at Illahe. It also has a tasting room in the heart of downtown Carlton.

Tel. (503) 851-3689; www.wildeairecellars.com

- Jay Miller (October, 2011)

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2009 Wildaire Cellars Pinot Noir Timothy

WildAire's new releases begin with the 2009 Pinot Noir Timothy, a three vineyard blend utilizing a variety of clones and 5% whole clusters with aging for 10 months in 5% new French oak. It offers up an alluring perfume of spicy red fruits, floral notes, and damp earth. This sets the stage for an intense, layered, easy-to-understand wine that offers great value in Willamette Valley Pinot Noir. Drink it over the next 5-6 years.

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2009 Wildaire Cellars Pinot Noir Clay Court Vineyard

The 2009 Pinot Noir Clay Court Vineyard is sourced from a site owned by Elk Cove and was aged for 10 months in 33% new French oak. Aromas of spice box, incense, rose petal, cherry, and raspberry inform the nose of a sweetly-fruited, savory, nicely proportioned wine with adequate concentration and good length. Drink this flavorful effort over the next 6-7 years.

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2009 Wildaire Cellars Pinot Noir Shea Vineyards

The 2009 Pinot Noir Shea Vineyard was sourced from two blocks planted to Dijon clones 114 and 777 and aged for 18 months in 33% new French oak. It came in at 15.1% alcohol providing the wine with a rich, full-bodied character but not the elegance or complexity of a more medium-bodied wine. Even so, it is a succulent, friendly, pleasurable wine akin to a big wet kiss rather than a peck on the cheek.

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