

A to Z

Oregon Vintage Overview

'18 2018 was a supremely kind one. The weather was incredible from start to finish, with moderate temperatures and a nice diurnal temperature swing between days and nights. *The fruit and resulting wines have wonderful freshness and intensity while being balanced, succulent and generous.* The steady and prolonged window of cooperative weather allowed us to harvest fruit when it was optimal, and when we were ready to receive it. *Across all varieties, quality was high, with disease pressure almost non-existent coming from the vineyard allowing us to make the wines exactly how we wanted to.*

'17 A cool, wet spring led to the latest budbreak we've seen for the past several years, and hence later flowering. This means a greater chance of favorable weather and the development of a large crop both in terms of berry quantity and size. This calls for discipline in fruit-thinning. The summer was warm and sunny, accumulating growing degree days and 'catching up' the projected harvest to about two weeks behind 2015 and 2016. *Underlying the challenges of the 2017 vintage, it was a very sound growing season and harvest.*

'16 2016 started with a bang as we saw record warm temperatures push budbreak and flower earlier than ever across Oregon. The heat interspaced with rain led to very fast growth and heightened mildew pressure. We believed we were in for another 2015 vintage as we moved into the summer, but 100 degree days gave way to mild temperatures across Oregon through the summer months. All in all, we saw beautiful (*if hot at times*) weather, a little lower yields than projected and *fruit that was clean, concentrated and ripe. In some ways we have had an embarrassment of riches with a tremendous run over the past few vintages that has continued with 2016.*

'15 2015 started warmer and drier than average due to the strengthening El Nino leading to the earliest budbreak on record. Spring was typical for Oregon with alternating rain and sunshine, topping up soil moisture and slowing development. Warmer conditions at the start of summer made for rapid bloom with excellent set and the weather remained warm and dry up until harvest. 2015 was the earliest harvest in decades, but all in all, *the quality for the 2015 vintage in Oregon was exceptional with fantastic phenolic development, balanced sugars and acids.*

