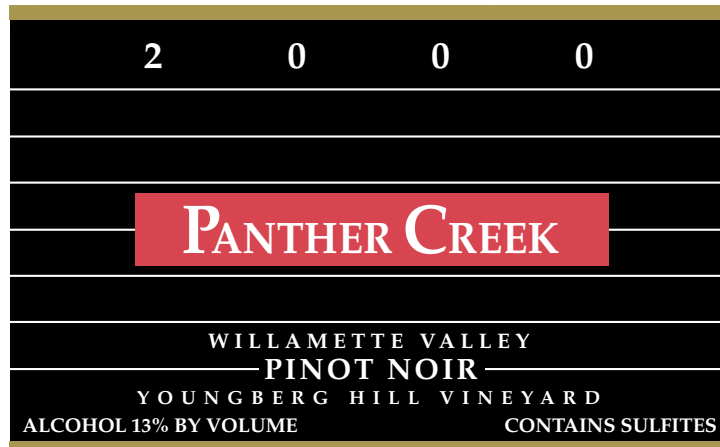


PANTHER CREEK

2000 Youngberg Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir



Vineyard Notes: Panther Creek is able to choose some of the best vineyard sites in the Willamette Valley, contracting certain blocks, which yield the highest quality grapes. 2000 is the first vintage we vineyard designated the wine from this beautiful vineyard in the hills above McMinnville, Oregon. We have five acres of the ten-acre site, which was planted in 1990. The grapes are typically thinned at veraison to nearly half the normal yield, in order to produce the most concentrated flavors in the fruit. The Clone is Pommard; the soil type is Stywier.

Vintage Notes: The 2000 vintage was characterized by a very warm summer, followed by a cool, clear September and seasonal October. Normally, Pinot Noir is harvested in the Willamette Valley between late September and early October, and the 2000 vintage was no exception. Harvest of the Youngberg Hill fruit was October 8 and 12, 2000. The very warm summer and cool autumn produced fruit with exceptional ripeness and superb flavor development (conditions which rarely coexist).

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Vinification/Aging: After de-stemming 100%, the fruit was crushed gently so the must contained 30-40% whole berries. The must underwent approximately ten days primary fermentation

(native yeasts to 65°F, then inoculated with D80 yeast strains). It was pressed in a Willmes 30 hectoliter membrane press, settled in a clean tank, then racked into French oak barrels where it aged 16 months without further racking. Approximately 40% of the barrels were new, with the balance consisting of second and third-use barrels.

Bottling/Release Date: Bottled February 27, 2002; released May 1, 2002

Tasting notes:

- Color: dark ruby
- Nose: warm blackberries, marionberries, nutmeg, graphite and vanilla
- Taste: blackberries, pie spices, turned earth

Selling Point:

- This wine is very rich, with great length and acid, and is beautifully balanced; it is quite forward, and wants to be drunk young, but it has plenty of stuffing for the long haul

Production: Total 465 cases

Suggested Retail Price: \$48/bottle

Reviews/Ratings:

- 2000: Not yet rated