2018 La Chouette Pinot Noir

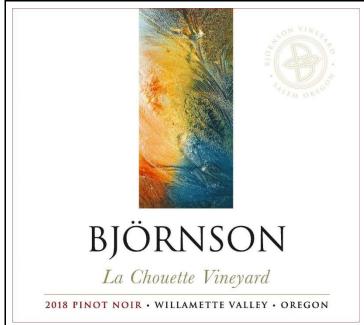
Willamette Valley | Oregon

Björnson Vineyard is part of a scenic 107-acre farm, located in the heart of Oregon's Willamette Valley. We are committed to generating renewable energy, farming sustainably, and making wine with minimal handling, so that each bottle fully expresses our exceptional terroir.

The Grapes for this wine come from La Chouette Vineyard, located in the picturesque hills south of Salem. French for owl; *La Chouette*, was named for the nightly serenades of the owls that reside in the oak trees bordering the vineyard.

The Wine has fresh red apples on the nose giving way to toasted hazelnuts and *Herb de Provence*; reminiscent of a summer picknick. The palate is juicy with a nice savory character and a long bright finish.

The 2018 Vintage was a grape growers dream and the fifth warm vintage in a row. It was a relatively easy year in the vineyard and in the cellar producing opulent wines. The summer was hot and dry but our proximity to the Van Duzer corridor brings consistent, cooling evening winds in from the coast preserving the natural acidity and freshness of the fruit. Fall brought some periodic rain events and gave the vines a drink, but most of the precipitation waited until all the fruit was picked.



Appellation: Willamette Valley, Oregon

Vineyard: La Chouette Vineyard, 777, 115, and Pommard

Vinification: The fruit was hand-picked, sorted, and destemmed without crushing to maintain whole berries during fermentation. After a four-day cold soak, the fermenters warmed naturally and were gently pumped over once daily until active fermentation. The fermenters were punched down daily until pressing at dryness. After settling, the wine was racked to French oak barrels and aged 11 months.

Harvested: October 12, 23.3-24.6 Brix

Finished Wine: Alc. 14.25%, pH 3.47, TA 6.1g/L

Bottled: September 9, 2019, 150 cases

