

# 2019 MAISON L'ENVOYÉ

## STRAIGHT SHOOTER PINOT NOIR



**WINEMAKER:** Felipe Ramirez  
**REGION:** Willamette Valley, Oregon  
**VARIETALS:** Pinot Noir (Clones: Pommard/114/115/777/Wadensvil/667)  
**MATURATION:** 12 months in French oak barrels (10% new)  
**ALCOHOL:** 13.6% alc/vol

**VINTAGE:** The 2019 vintage was a defining vintage. The temperatures during the growing season were much cooler than normal so patience was key. Careful sorting and extensive fruit-dropping in the vineyard was necessary to ensure that the remaining fruit ripened to full maturity. The grapes were hand sorted again once received into the winery to achieve optimal quality. With the cool conditions this year, the wines retain a wonderful acidity and great flavor development.

**WINEMAKING:** The fruit was 80% destemmed and underwent an indigenous ferment in stainless steel open top tanks. The grapes were “infused” as whole berries and 20% as whole clusters at a moderate temperature, in an oxygen rich environment until pressed. The wine then matured in French oak barrels for 12 months, 10% of which were new.

**TASTING NOTES:** Hand-picked, unadulterated Pinot Noir from pristine vineyard blocks across Willamette Valley. The whole cluster component accentuates the intense aromatics of dark cherry and blue fruits alongside subtle earth and elegant floral notes. The palate mirrors the nose and is full of freshness with a touch of oak for texture and balance. Vibrant acidity and soft tannins support the flavors through a long, satisfying finish.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 90 pts Vinous, 90 pts Wine and Spirits

**ABOUT MAISON L'ENVOYÉ:** Driven by a tireless hunt for elusive sites where Pinot Noir shines, Maison L'Envoyé, 'The House of the Messenger' traverses the globe with the intention of presenting the acme of regionality and winemaking styles. With winemaking footprints in Burgundy, Willamette Valley, Central Otago and Tasmania, they champion many unsung growers who have farmed their vineyards for decades and generations, some mere feet away from more illustriously cited neighbors. This project has been a standout since its debut in 2011 including Wine & Spirits naming Maison L'Envoyé a Winery To Watch' in 2015.

