

ST. INNOCENT

‘Five Great Oregon Vineyards Worth Knowing’

– Wine Enthusiast (Temperance Hill, Shea, Freedom Hill)

‘Vlossak's dedication to quality and his commitment to delivering value to his customers is exemplary.’ -Robert Parker

‘Oregon winemaker Mark Vlossak is justifiably acclaimed for his impressive single-vineyard Pinot Noirs, and his touch with Chardonnay is no less fine.’ -Food and Wine 2022

Year Founded: 1988

Region: Willamette Valley, OR

Winemaker/Owner: Mark Vlossak

Fun Fact : St. Innocent is famed for the monthly lunches and dinners prepared by Mark himself for wine club members.

-Certified Sustainable, Certified Organic-

St. Innocent began as an idea conceived in a moment of passion and inspiration in 1983. Mark Vlossak spent the next five years studying, taking classes, and apprenticing with Oregon wine pioneer, Fred Arterberry. In 1988, St. Innocent Winery was founded. Our goal is to produce wines that respect the quality and tradition of the Old World in one of the newest and most exciting wine growing regions on the planet: Oregon's Willamette Valley.

The winery was built to help us make wine more naturally, using minimal technology. We fill the fermenters and bottle by gravity flow. Our barrels rest in an underground room with

naturally controlled temperature and humidity. Mark believes that simplicity in this process allows the wine's personality to be fully expressed. The barrels are never moved during their aging, nor is any machinery allowed in the barrel cellar; all work is done by hand.

"The winery is named after my father, who introduced me to wine at the age of seven. Unusually, I loved it! I quickly developed a very good palate and we had a nightly wine lesson with dinner. As a hobby, he was one of the early members of the Society of Wine Educators. He was in the first group to pass the SWE certificate exam, and was the first American to earn a Lifetime Achievement Award. He had an importers license for 20 years, working for a Wisconsin wine importer / distributor, and frequently traveled to wine regions around the world. Everyone knew him as 'John I. Vlossak', as he was not fond of his middle name- 'Innocent'. I wanted to honor his influence on my palate- the one thing that cannot be taught. 'John's Winery' would have sounded too boring, and 'Vlossak Winery' sounds too much like a certain pickle company, so I ultimately settled on 'St. Innocent', and the rest is history."



2020 St. Innocent Chardonnay Freedom Hill Vineyard



Grown on the oldest marine sedimentary soils in Oregon, in the new Mt. Pisgah AVA, our Chardonnay from Freedom Hill Vineyard is truly a star. At 2024 Oregon Pinot Camp, Oregon Chardonnay stole the show with comments like fabulous, an incredible value in terms of price/quality. Our site has strong similarities to Chablis, and the wine has an Oregon take on minerality, acidity, and lovely yellow fruits. The no SO2 juice is indigenously fermented in neutral French oak barrels and aged on the lees for 11 months (not stirred). The wine is bottled without fining and by gravity. (Yes, minimal intervention). The cool evenings result in a wine with juicy acidity, purity of fruit, and an intriguing creaminess on the nose and palate. This is an old-world style of Chardonnay that is particularly lovely with sauce-finished dishes, especially with chicken, crab and lobster. **Certified Sustainable!**

93 Points – Wine Enthusiast – *“Fresh, zesty aromas of lime and pine needles are joined by a bit of earthiness and Corn Nuts, the toasted corn treat. There is a lemon-lime edge to the medium-bodied palate, with touches of chamomile tea and sugar cookies.”*

93 Points – International Wine Report

2019 St. Innocent Pinot Noir Temperance Hill Vineyard



This certified organic vineyard is located on a high ridge in the middle of Eola-Amity Hills. The windy site on thin soil produces dark red fruit, smoky spice, and vibrant Pinot Noir.

This exposed, cool high altitude site ripens later than surrounding vineyards. Our Pinot Noir grapes come from three blocks planted on thin weathered basalt. The East Block planted in 1984 is on a steep hill rising to 870'. The “R” (2004) and Pump House Blocks (1995) face south. The de-stemmed grapes were fermented in 4-8 ton stainless steel and Burgundy oak fermenters with no SO2, allowing the fermentation to proceed naturally. After gentle pressing and settling, the wine aged in French oak barrels, 22% of which were new, for 16 months before bottling by gravity without fining. **Certified Organic!**

94 Points – International Wine Report – *“I loved the 2018 Temperance Hill Vineyard from St Innocent, and the 2019 vintage is even better. More fresh and lively on the nose, it gifts gorgeous notes of wild mountain blueberry, luscious black cherry, melted milk chocolate, ground white peppercorn, cedary herbs, and toasted anise. Acidity checks in on the high side; it features a medium to full body, is wonderfully balanced, and fetches a lengthy finish.”*

93 Points – James Suckling – *“Cherries, dried strawberries, rose hips and oyster shells on the nose. Some lemon peel. It’s medium-bodied, tight and refined, with relatively firm tannins and a more mineral finish.”*

2019 St. Innocent Pinot Noir Freedom Hill Vineyard



Our biggest and boldest Pinot Noir, great with steak.

Freedom Hill Vineyard is located in the foothills of the Coast Range, 10 miles SW of Salem, Oregon. During the day warm air rises from the valley floor ripening the skins. At night, cool ocean breezes act to retain acidity. Planted on old sedimentary soils, the vines have a SW exposure at an elevation of 520' to 580'. Our Pinot Noir comes from two blocks, one planted in 2004 with Pommard and Wädenswil and one planted in 2008 with 777. The de-stemmed grapes were fermented in 4-8 ton stainless steel fermenters with no SO₂, allowing the fermentations to proceed naturally. After gentle pressing and settling, the wine aged in French oak barrels, 24% of which were new, for 16 months before bottling by gravity without fining.
Certified Sustainable!

93 Points – Wine&Spirits – *“This pinot is compact and sleek when first poured, the caramel and tobacco aromas forming a frame around spiced red cherry. As it opens, a cool savor comes through in the firm, earthy tannins.”*

93 Points – James Suckling – *“Notes of chocolate-coated red berries with ground spices, dried citrus rind and raw mushrooms. It's full and creamy on the palate, with tight tannins and dense, fleshy dark fruit on the mid-palate.”*

2019 St. Innocent Pinot Noir Shea Vineyard



‘Prepare yourself. This wine is absolutely out of this world. It defines the best of this wine region (sub-AVAs included). I feel like this is what winemakers saw in the ‘60s when they were planting this grape even though others said don’t even try. It’s soft depth of fruit will make you swoon. The fleshiness will coat your palate as the slight tannic grip releases. It’s a tough one to write about, you just need to try it.’ -Vinepair 2023

Our most complex and age worthy Pinot Noir from one of Oregon's greatest vineyards. Shea Vineyard is located in the Yamhill-Carlton District AVA, 35 miles SW of Portland, Oregon. The grapes for this wine come from two blocks: Block 6, planted in 1998 with Dijon clone 115 and a small amount of Pommard (11 rows), faces SE slope on a hillside of shallow sedimentary soil at about 450-500' in elevation. The Terrace Block faces SW, planted in 2002 with the Pommard clone, and gets its name from the terraces carved into its steep slope. The de-stemmed grapes were fermented in 4-8 ton stainless steel and Burgundy oak fermenters with no SO₂, allowing the fermentations to process naturally. After gentle pressing and settling, the wine aged in French oak barrels, 26% of which were new, for 16 months before bottling by gravity and without fining.
Certified Sustainable!

93+ Points – Vinous – *“Depths of crushed ashen stones and grilled herbs give way to zests of tangerine and sour cherry as the 2019 Pinot Noir Shea Vineyard comes to life in the glass. This is silky-smooth, but it steps lightly, seeming to hover across the palate with ripe wild berry fruits neatly and a hint of inner cedar. Minty herbal tones resonate with a note of cocoa as the 2019 finishes long, juicy and wickedly fresh. It’s almost impossible to stop at just one glass.”*

93 Points – Cellar Selection - Wine Enthusiast – *“A really intriguing mix of red fruit and tangerines highlight an aromatic set that also features touches of leather and loamy soil. All the raspberry flavor you can handle is on tap, along with tastes of smoked almonds and citrus. The wine's juicy acidity is matched by significant tannic structure.”*

93 Points – Wine&Spirits