

Kelley Fox Wines Shafer Vineyard Pinot Noir 2022

In the late 1990s, I lived at a breathtakingly beautiful vineyard in the Coast Range foothills called "Tualatin Vineyard". All kinds of wild things live hidden in those forests. I remember visiting the nearby Shafer Vineyard (Miki and Harvey Shafer also ran a Christmas swag side hustle in addition to their vineyard and their winery, Shafer Vineyard Cellars.) and feeling like I was in some magical fairy place. When Ony Mora asked me whether I would make a small amount of wine from self-rooted vines planted in 1973 for him and his brother, Jesus-there was no hesitation. Ony and Jesus have been managing and personally caring for pristine vineyards with consistent excellence for at least three decades. They are my friends, and they have been an important part of my winery for some time. The Shafer 2022 is a rich, deep, youthful red with brilliant transparency. The nose is incredibly complex-perhaps like the energy of surrounding evergreens-and filled with rich, just-ripe red fruits like Oregon strawberries and a hint of shoyu. The mouth, with its beautiful texture and heft, continues with the Oregon strawberries, but this time grilled. It seems to have the depth and silence of temperate rainforest energy, and after the bottle was open for about 20 minutes, the Shafer was swoon-worthy.

Appellation: Tualatin Hills A.V.A.

Picking Date: 20 October 2022 (franc de pied vines planted in 1973)

Barrels: neutral Burgundy barrels (228L) made from tight-grain French forests

Bottling Date: 11 July 2023

Alcohol: 13.0 %

Whole Cluster: 30%

Cases Produced: 46 cases