PANTHER CREEK Cellars

SOIL TYPES AND VINEYARDS





WILLAKENZIE SOIL SEDIMENTARY MARINE

The mustard-tinted Willakenzie is the best-known sedimentary soil in the Willamette Valley. Western Oregon was on the floor of the Pacific Ocean. About 15 million years ago, the Pacific and North American tectonic plates collided, lifting up this ocean floor and creating the Coast Range and the Cascade Mountains. Willakenzie soil is composed of the marine sediment of that former seafloor combined with the alluvial scree from the Lake Missoula flooding. As the collisions continued, the hills of the Willamette Valley were formed, with the top layer of volcanic soil exposed in some places and the lower layer of sedimentary soil revealed in others.

Willakenzie Soil is the soil type of our **Kalita Vineyard** located in the **Yamhill-Carlton AVA** – Redolent in black fruits (blackberry, black currant, black cherry), tinged with blue fruits (blueberry, boysenberry) and light floral tones (lilac, gardenia), light earthiness (dry sandy soil) with balanced acidity, soft tannins and silky textural notes. There is a roundness and depth to the wines from this vineyard and AVA.

JORY SOIL VOLANIC CLAY

Jory is the Willamette Valley's most prominent volcanic soil. Many millions of years ago, fissures near what is now the Washington-Idaho border released unimaginably massive lava eruptions that blanketed huge portions of Washington and Oregon with basalt. Between approximately 15 million and 6 million years ago, these flows spread through the northern Willamette Valley, leaving basalt that would later be exposed on hillsides.

Predominately Jory soil in our **Lazy River Vineyard** located in the **Yamhill-Carlton AVA** brings bright red fruits (cranberry, red raspberry, pomegranate, wild strawberry) and dusty road minerality tempered by the dark fruit (blackberry, black currant) profile of the volcanic influence. The fruits can have a brambly characteristic to them.

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NEKIA SOIL SEDIMENTARY MARINE

Nekia Soil is comprised of marine sediments and alluvial deposits intermingled by the Missoula Floods. The influence of the cool, coastal winds making their way into the region by way of the **Van Duzer Corridor** are largely thought to play a key role in the style of wine produced in this region. The AVA's soils are rocky, shallow, well-drained volcanic basalt from ancient lava flows, combined with marine sedimentary rock and/or alluvial deposits.

Nekia soil is mostly found in the **Eola-Amity Hills AVA** of the Willamette Valley and is the soil found in **Carter Vineyard**. Grapes that come from this soil typically produce notes of dark fruit (blackberry, marionberry, black cherry, black plum) with cedar, cigarbox and light coffee tones. The end result are wines with formidable structure with fine grain tannins.

