

NORTH VALLEY 2012 RESERVE PINOT NOIR

NORTH VALLEY WINES. The Willamette Valley is Oregon's most recognized appellation for cool climate varietal wines, and it is in the Northern part of this region where the finest vineyards are found - an epicenter we refer to as the North Valley - which includes all of the defined sub-appellations (the Dundee Hills, Ribbon Ridge, Yamhill-Carlton, etc.). It is from within this region of rolling hillsides and diverse soils that veteran winegrowers James Cahill and Tony Soter, along with North Valley partners, Brian Sypher and Michelle Soter, source certified sustainable vineyards of real "Cru" quality for these personality-driven wines. Meticulous, hands-on attention to farming practices throughout the growing season from flowering through harvest, and minimal handling in the winery, assures a resulting level of quality normally associated exclusively with estate grown wines - in fact, we think of each vineyard site we work with as if it were a "satellite estate property", as a statement of our genuine commitment to making the best wines we can.

TASTING AND VINTAGE NOTES. While our debut 2011 North Valley Reserve Pinot Noir hailed from a single vineyard source, our 2012 represents fruit selected from four different sites, from four sub-appellations, all of real breed. The 2012 vintage was one of our region's great ones, and this wine will satisfy immediately upon release, while developing complexity in the bottle for over a decade. Aromas and flavors of black cherry, plum and framboise predominate, laced with notes of earth, dark chocolate and spice. Sweet on the palate, it is finely balanced with underpinnings of real minerality. The mouth feel is velvety, and the wine has fine, silky tannins. With a long, seductive, layered finish, it reveals noteworthy structure, but doesn't sacrifice finesse.

APPELLATION

76% Eola-Amity Hills
10% Ribbon Ridge
9% Yamhill-Carlton
5% Dundee Hills
Certified Sustainable Vineyards

ELEVAGE

40% new French oak barrels
60% neutral French oak barrels
2-3 yr old French oak barrels
33% whole cluster fermentation

PRODUCTION

1,450 cases

ALCOHOL

14.1%

CELLARING

Drinks beautifully now,
especially with decanting,
and will evolve in the bottle
for many years.

"...This feels lithe in the mouth with fine delineation, very focused, gently building to a lovely tea-leaf tinged finish that lingers long in the mouth."

91 PTS, THE WINE ADVOCATE

"Fresh and silky, with pretty cherry and spice flavors on a transparent frame. Has deftness and lingers with extra coffee notes on the finish."

90 PTS, WINE SPECTATOR

