

vinous

93<sub>pts</sub>**Belle Pente 2012 Pinot Noir Belle Pente Vineyard****Yamhill Carlton, Willamette Valley, Oregon****Red wine from United States****Drinking window: 2018 - 2023**

Vivid ruby with a bright rim. The nose displays an array of red fruit and floral scents, with suggestions of allspice, smoky minerals and saffrafrs adding complexity. On the palate, vibrant raspberry and cherry flavors show an appealing sweetness and very good depth. Juicy acidity lends lift and spine, and fine-grained tannins shape the very long, focused finish, which leaves a sweet floral pastille note behind.

**Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: July 2015**

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From Oregon Pinot Noir: The 2013s &amp; 2012 Late Releases (Oct 2015)

**Belle Pente**

Always among Oregon's best values in high-end Pinots, the wines of Jill and Brian O'Donnell have been on an upward curve in recent vintages, thanks in no small part according to Brian, to the fact that "the vines are maturing and so are we." The Belle Pente bottlings are decidedly elegant, with vibrant fruit character and silky texture. They also show an elusive soulfulness that reflects the vaguely commune-like vibe of the O'Donnells' livestock-populated 70-acre hilltop property just outside bustling downtown Carlton.

**Grape/Blend**

Pinot Noir

**Release price**

\$39.00

**Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)**

774