



# ADELSHEIM ELIZABETH'S RESERVE PINOT NOIR 2012

Appellation: Ribbon Ridge, Willamette Valley; Oregon; USA

**Winemaker:** Dave Paige

**Closure:** Cork

**Alcohol:** 13.5%



## Winery

As one of Oregon's founding wineries, our history is long and varied. From planting the first vineyard in the early 1970's to farming 237 acres in the north Willamette Valley today, a great deal of learning, experimentation and collaboration has contributed to our company's and our region's success. At Adelsheim Vineyard we strive to make wines of elegance and balance, wines that reflect the unique flavors and textures that grow in the Willamette Valley. We use a restrained approach that relies on decades of experience to express the uniqueness of each vineyard and each vintage.

## Tasting Notes

This wine is both elegant and intense, offering layered aromas of red raspberries, fresh Oregon strawberries, brown spice and cedar. Its aromas are reflected on a palate that speaks of purity and elegance, and is exceptionally balanced with silky tannins and a persistent finish.

## Reviews

Sexy mineral- and spice-accented cherry and black raspberry scents show very good clarity and a suave floral nuance. Pliant red and dark berry flavors expand in the glass, picking up hints of cola, woodsmoke and vanilla bean. Closes with repeating spiciness, supple tannins and excellent clarity, leaving a juicy blackberry note behind.

- 92 points **Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar.**

## Vintage

The 2012 growing season got off to a slightly slower than average start, with bud break occurring on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, about a week later than normal for the Willamette Valley. Weather during bloom was close to ideal, with minimal rainfall towards the end of flowering. Reduced berry set led to smaller clusters and lower yields than the prior vintage. A warmer and drier than average growing season resulted in extremely low disease pressure and provided ample sunshine for the grapes to develop beautifully complex flavor profiles. Veraison occurred around the end of August and the Willamette Valley experienced excellent ripening conditions until harvest. Perfect weather conditions lasted through harvest, which ended on the 25th of October. The remarkable growing season of 2012 resulted in clean fruit with intense colors and concentrated flavors.

## Wine

The name "Elizabeth's Reserve" was first used in 1986 to designate the blend of our best barrels of Pinot noir - the best barrels from our best lots. Most of the fruit for this wine (72%) comes from five of our estate vineyards located on south-facing slopes of the Chehalem Mountains and Ribbon Ridge. With many wonderful lots representing different soil types, clones, site climates, fermenter sizes, and barrel characteristics, winemaker Dave Paige pulls together those that best create a reserve level wine, one that truly reflects the vintage and character of our corner of the Willamette Valley.

