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93_{pts}**Belle Pente 2012 Pinot Noir Murto Vineyard****Dundee Hills, Willamette Valley, Oregon****Red wine from United States****Drinking window: 2018 - 2023**

Brilliant ruby-red. Powerful smoke- and spice-accented red berry preserve and floral pastille scents show wonderful clarity, picking up notes of sassafras and cola with air. Sweet and expansive on the palate, offering juicy black raspberry and cherry-cola flavors that show an alluring spiciness and a touch of candied rose. This weighty yet lithe wine finishes with excellent thrust and smooth, slowly building tannins. The 2011 rendition of this wine is very tightly wound right now and in need of at least another five years of cellaring, by the way.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: July 2015

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From Oregon Pinot Noir: The 2013s & 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)

441