



APPASSIONATA 2012 Pinot Noir “Fortissimo”

Virtuoso wines from Oregon’s Willamette Valley.

Appassionata Estate began as a passion project for the renowned German winemaker Ernst Loosen, whose lifelong love for exploring the world’s great Pinot Noirs drew him to Oregon nearly three decades ago. Appassionata seeks the greatest potential for wines from a very special place in the volcanically formed, flood-washed hills of the cool-climate Willamette Valley. The wines celebrate the unique climatic and geological characteristics that make this wine region so highly prized by wine lovers the world over, with a singular focus on ageability.

WINES FOR THE AGES

For Erni, the real character and complexity of a truly great wine don’t emerge until it has developed maturity, which can only happen through time and cannot be rushed. Given time – in the barrel and in the bottle – a fine wine will clearly reveal the unique nature of its terroir, as well as the signature of its vintage. This is what we strive for at Appassionata Estate: wines that vividly express their origins, and that have the depth, structure and complexity to reward long-term cellar aging. To achieve that, we grow fruit of exceptional quality and practice unhurried winemaking, allowing the wines to unfold at their own tempo. Then we hold them for up to 10 years before release, giving them time to emerge in full harmony.

2012 “FORTISSIMO” PINOT NOIR

Inspired by the three movements of Beethoven’s “Appassionata” Piano Sonata, there are three Appassionata Pinot Noirs, released at different tempos. The finale of the Appassionata Pinot Sonata is Fortissimo (dynamically forceful). Selected for ultimate expressivity and longevity, it is not released until 10 years after the vintage. This is the epitome of expressive excellence that we are seeking in Willamette Valley Pinot Noir – a wine that combines brooding intensity with liting grace and can stand alongside the classic wines of the world. The 2012 Fortissimo is muscular and full-bodied, with a deep color and seamless structure. In this phase of maturation, tertiary aromas begin to show a profound complexity and subtle earthiness that only develops with bottle age and cannot be accelerated.



TECHNICAL INFO

Appellation: Dundee Hills

Vineyard Sources: Charlie’s Vineyard (25%),
Bella Vida Vineyard (22%),
Meyer Vineyard (22%),
La Colina Vineyard (19%),
Baptista Maresh Vineyard 10%

Soil Type: Red volcanic clay, with basalt bedrock

Clones: Pommard, Wädenswil

Age of Vines: 10 to 30 years

Viticulture: Sustainable

Average Yield: 2.5 tons per acre

Vinification: 100% destemmed; native yeast fermentation; unforced malolactic; matured 20 months in French oak barriques (25% new); no fining or filtration.

Alcohol: 13.5%

Total Production: 212 cases

Release Date: August 2022

[95] WINE ENTHUSIAST

[94] WINE SPECTATOR

[95] OWEN BARGREEN