

# Belle Pente

United States - Oregon - Carlton / Willamette Valley



**Ownership/Founders** Brian & Jill O'Donnell

**Start of Activity** 1994

**Vitiviniculture** Organic

**Hectares** 7,3

**Bottles produced** 58.000

## WILLAMETTE VALLEY PINOT NOIR

**100% Pinot Noir**

**Production area:** Yamhill-Carlton and Ribbon Ridge

**Terrain:** suolo sedimentario marino e suoli diabase di transizione

**Harvest:** manual

**Vinification:** de-stemming and 5 to 8 days of cold maceration, it is then left to ferment with selected yeasts in 1.25- and 2.5-ton fermenters, punched down by hand twice a day. Cuvaion average total 19 days

**Refinement:** In cask for 11-16 months with a racking in tank for bottling

**Color:** faint ruby red

**Fragrance:** hints of Ribbon Ridge fruit

**Flavor:** Fresh and vibrant, with bright fruit and great underlying structure

**Alcoholic Grade:** 13% vol



Belle Pente was founded in 1994 by Jill and Brian O'Donnell who, after meeting in California, move to the Willamette Valley. Both were award-winning home brewers, although Brian had been making wine for family and friends since 1986. On the night of the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989, they decided to leave their careers in Silicon Valley to pursue their wine dream. Organic and biodynamic viticulture, vineyards with south, south-east and south-west exposures. Sixteen acres planted on the property, including twelve acres of Pinot Noir and two acres each of Pinot Grigio and Chardonnay, as well as nearly half an acre of Gamay Noir. Bellepente's shallow soils are recognised for their ability to produce exceptional wines of great power and finesse. In the cellar, the winemaking philosophy reflects the inspiration of "old world" winemaking traditions: great wine is born in the vineyard and is simply respected in the cellar. The grapes are harvested by hand and meticulously selected upon arrival at the cellar. The three-level, gravity-flow facility is designed for gentle, natural vinification in small batches, with minimal manipulation, to preserve varietal integrity and the unique attributes of the time and place where the wines were grown. All this makes Belle Pente one of the finest expressions of Oregon winemaking.