

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, moved to the Willamette Valley. Both were award-winning home-brewers, although Brian had started making wine for family and friends as early as 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[1]west exposures. 16 acres planted on the property, including 12 acres of Pinot Noir and 2 each of Pinot Gris and Chardonnay, plus 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 processing philosophy reflects the inspiration from '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 on arrival at the winery. The three-tier, gravity-flow structure is designed for gentle, natural vinification in small batches, with minimal manipulation, to preserve the varietal integrity and unique attributes of the time and place in which the wines were grown. All this makes Belle Pente one of the best interpreters of winemaking in Oregon and the United States.