

2022 Patricia Green Reserve Pinot Noir- Willamette Valley, Oregon

The Willamette Valley is a pastoral, mixed landscape of green, bucolic rolling hills, dramatic forest lands and small, independent, friendly wine growers. The valley has some of the nation's most protective land use policies, with two-thirds of its vineyards farmed sustainably and over half, organically. The valley claims a cool, continental climate, heavily influenced by the cold, moist winds of the Pacific Ocean, but its warm and dry summers allow for the steady, even ripening of Pinot noir. Patty Green and Jim Anderson started Patricia Green Cellars in the area that became the Ribbon Ridge AVA. The winery was built on the idea that great vineyards in Oregon could produce uniquely excellent wines if people dedicated themselves to the farming and winemaking necessary to do so. The Willamette Valley Pinot Noir bottling "Reserve" is almost entirely made up of barrels that simply were not included in a more prestigious bottling. It is vividly fruit-focused with a burst of crushed raspberries, lavender and peppery rose. Silky and sleek, this mixes tart red berries with hints of spicy citrus carried over a core of zesty acidity. This tapers off with steely minerality and palpable with silty tannins that add a pleasantly tactile feel. Vinous 91 PTS

<u>Pairings:</u> Whether you prefer light or dark turkey meat, they are equally delicious with this Pinot Noir. The Pinot's tangy berry notes are just like adding a bite of cranberry sauce. Pinot is also perfect with salmon, venison, seasoned lamb, and game hen.

2020 Tenuta Nicosia Monte Gorda Etna Rosso- Sicily, Italy

Sicily is Italy's fourth largest wine-producing region and is finally receiving the accolades it deserves in today's global market. Francesco Nicosia, the great-grandfather of the current owner, opened his wine shop in Trecastagni, Sicily. Etna wines were renowned and esteemed across Europe for their minerality and "volcanic" personality. Towards the end of the twentieth century, Carmelo Nicosia helped transform the family business into one of the leading players of Sicilian wine in Italy and around the world. The island includes various microclimates of Europe's largest volcano, Mount Etna, where vineyards grow on drastically steep hillsides and varying aspects to the Ionian Sea. The more noteworthy Sicilian wines that come from the volcanic soils of Mount Etna include Nerello Mascalese and Nerello Cappuccio. These famous native grapes grown on high-elevation volcanic slopes of Mount Etna are blended to produce this rich and complex Monte Gorda Etna Rosso wine with a great minerality and flavorsome aromas such as red fruit, herbs, spices and licorice. On the palate, this volcanic wine is well-balanced, with refined tannins and a long balsamic finish.

<u>Pairings:</u> Roasted game- roasted turkey, flavorful pasta dishes, grilled meats and aged cheeses