PATRICIA GREEN CELLARS

2025 Reserve Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley

2025 Vintage Story: ***Is Oregon the most consistent place to make wine on Earth right now? Aside from the wildfire smoke ravaged wines of 2020 (which was going to be a wonderful vintage) the 2025s are the 14th consecutive vintage where Oregon has been blessed with incredible wine grape growing conditions. This is a vintage designed to make people either fall in love with Oregon Pinot Noir or affirm why one does so already. The harvest was quick, beginning in mid-September and finishing before the start of October. Grapes were ripe but not unduly so. As the wines have come together in barrel it is clear that the clarity and density of fruit are the stars of the show this year. Who doesn't, at some level, really love that? In some ways these might be the kind of wines people have in their mind's eye of what wine is. These are joyous and delicious bottlings that everyone from the most experienced and even somewhat jaded connoisseur to the absolute beginner can thoroughly embrace.***

Why is the entry-level wine called Reserve: Patricia Green Cellars has been around long enough that when we began our winery in 2000 there was still concern that the AVA "Willamette Valley" was not particularly well known around the country. Yes, those were different times. So, this bottling was actually labeled as "Oregon" from 2000-2005. However, in 2002 we had 10 barrels from various vineyards that were very good, but not quite in line with what we were doing with the single vineyards the barrels came from, however we felt like they made a special wine above and beyond the Oregon bottling. We bottled them and called it "Reserve". By 2006 it was clear that the Willamette Valley had made an indelible and lasting mark at a national and even international level and that it was time for us to ditch the Oregon moniker. However, the way our labels were set up back then we needed to have something in the stripe at the bottom of the label to identify the wine. To make this even more ponderous of a story, the issues in getting label approval back then were quite real as the ATF (at the time) did not have an online way to submit so approvals could take months. We decided to use the already approved "Reserve" label as we felt that this wine was more than some basic "Willamette Valley" bottling that had become a catchall for larger wineries cheapest Pinot Noir. And a decade and a half later it has all worked out. The wine is still an excellent quality Pinot Noir with vineyard sources that are quite astonishing given the wine's place in our long lineup.

What are those astonishing vineyards:

VINEYARD	BARRELS	PERCENT OF BLEND
MEDICI VINEYARD	68	35.42%
BIG FIR VINEYARD	62	32.29%
ESTATE VINEYARD	26	13.54%
DURANT VINEYARD	15	7.81%
LILLIE'S VINEYARD	14	7.29%
LA BELLE PROMENADE VINEYARD	5	2.60%
WIND RIDGE VINEYARD	2	1.04%

All of these sites, with the exception of Big Fir Vineyard, produce at least one vineyard designated Pinot Noir. Four vineyards have vines represented here that were planted in the 1970s or 80s. The point is that this wine is not some casual dumping ground of young vine stuff from unheralded sites. This is a wonderful assemblage of some of the top sites in the Willamette Valley.

Why does the 2025 vintage stand out? Yes, Patricia Green Cellars makes a lot of different bottlings of Pinot Noir. The Willamette Valley Reserve Pinot Noir has always been the basis of our Pinot Noirs but in a form that completely allows for delicious and FOMO-free drinking at early ages. The 2025 is perhaps the most magical of all our vintages to meet that specification. The 2025 wines are fruit dense, incredibly expressive and delicious and the

Reserve is chosen from a selection of vineyards and barrels that maximize the sensation of deliciousness and drinkability.

Wine Making and Notes: This bottling comes from terrific sources. The Reserve has always been a wine that looked to excellent and renowned vineyards for its make-up. The 2024 has an excellent and a completely unique pedigree, as noted above, for a wine at its pricing. For instance, nearly 35% of this bottling comes from fruit off of Medici Vineyard. Our Medici Vineyard Pinot Noir bottling retails at $55/bottle and is crafted from blocks in the vineyard dating back to the 1980s. Nearly another 33% comes from five of our top vineyard designated sites. The fruit sources for this bottling are absolutely impeccable.

This wine carries the breadth of the winery in other ways as well. From completely destemmed grapes to 100% whole cluster fermentations, all winemaking stylistic decisions are represented within this bottling. The level of vineyards in this wine has always been something else and this year that facet is concentrated to an incredible degree. The 7 vineyards that make up this bottling would all be most winery's best vineyard. Over 99 barrels of the 192 total barrels come from vine planted between 1972-2002. That's 24–54-year-old vines in a $30-ish bottle of Pinot Noir. That is essentially unheard of in this day and age. 2025 Reserve Pinot Noir is nothing BUT a pedigree monster! But that is as per usual for us!

As noted earlier, the 2025 vintage is simply a great vintage for lovers of delicious wine. 2025 marks yet another wonderful vintage here in Oregon in a run of excellent vintages that dates back to 2012 (excluding the smoke-damaged 2020). 2023 was great for its intensity and power and contains innumerable wines that will last decades. The 2024s are masters in turning the concept of pure Pinot Noir-osity into physical form. The 2025s are just flat out fun and delicious wines that are so easy to enjoy.

This winery has always been dedicated to the concept of the highest-level quality without necessarily attaching a corresponding price point. Patty and I always wanted to have a winery that made wines that we liked to drink, but more importantly a winery that had wines we would, were we the customer, feel good about paying for. This Reserve Pinot Noir is as an important bottling to us and this winery as the lowest production, super-fancy, and exclusive wine that we make. Lots of people see, buy, and drink this wine and that is something that we love.

Production: 4,668 cases bottled.

The wine was bottled with a TA of 5.4 and a pH of 3.53. Bottled with under 30 PPM free SO_2 and 75 PPM total SO_2. While largely in neutral barrels it is 3% new oak and 13% once-used barrels.

ABV: 13.5%

Tasting Note: *Please be aware that I am loathe to write tasting notes on our wines. Each person has an individual palate and therefore unique experiences with every wine. Also, what a person has tasted in their life and what they enjoy informs them on what a wine is like. If I tell you a wine tastes like cherries and you either have never had a cherry or don't like cherries what I am saying is irrelevant information. That being said I have been asked to include my thoughts on each wine (since we have so many).*

The 2025 Willamette Valley Reserve Pinot Noir is, as always, a great indicator of what to expect from Patricia Green Cellars' wines from the vintage. As noted above, this wine is immensely easy to enjoy. Now, that can sound like wine speak for "simple." It is not. This is about sweet fruit, lush texture and the seamless cohesion of fruit, texture, tannins, acids and overall build that makes everything feel in balance in the easiest of ways possible. It is not a fruit bomb but it has heroic levels of Pinot Noir red fruits. It isn't some soft wine that derives its sweetness from low acidity. This has a higher acid level than the utterly-precise 2024 bottling. It is not "smooth" as there are plenty of tannins from the older vines and wines pulled from whole cluster fermentations. It is just how all these facets have knitted together in 2025 to create a nearly perfect Reserve bottling.