

NORTH VALLEY 2012 RESERVE CHARDONNAY

NORTH VALLEY WINES. The Willamette Valley is Oregon's most recognized appellation for cool climate varietal wines, and it is in the Northern part of this region where the finest vineyards are found - an epicenter we refer to as the North Valley - which includes all of the defined sub-appellations (the Dundee Hills, Ribbon Ridge, Yamhill-Carlton, etc.). It is from within this region of rolling hillsides and diverse soils that veteran winegrowers James Cahill and Tony Soter, along with North Valley partners, Brian Sypher and Michelle Soter, source certified sustainable vineyards of real "Cru" quality for these personality-driven wines. Meticulous, hands-on attention to farming practices throughout the growing season from flowering through harvest, and minimal handling in the winery, assures a resulting level of quality normally associated exclusively with estate grown wines - in fact, we think of each vineyard site we work with as if it were a "satellite estate property", as a statement of our genuine commitment to making the best wines we can.

APPELLATION

100% Eola-Amity Hills
Certified Sustainable Vineyards

PRODUCTION

589 cases

ELEVAGE

6% new French oak
49% used French oak
45% stainless steel barrels
50% malolactic fermentation

ALCOHOL

13.6%

TASTING AND VINTAGE NOTES. For this second release of North Valley Reserve Chardonnay, we once again sourced esteemed Roserock Vineyard in the Eola-Amity Hills. While the 2011 was razor sharp with acid on a super sleek frame, our 2012, from one of our region's historically great vintages, has an added level of richness, while remaining very balanced. A complex nose combines classic notes of pear and baked apples with tropical tones - guava, passion fruit, and papaya. On the palate, the wine expresses flavors of citrus oils, baking spices and tangerine zest. While mouth filling, it is brisk on the palate with refreshing minerality, thanks to good acidity. With great delineation, it finishes with a flash of granny smith apple, long and engaging.

"...This is very well balanced, nicely poised throughout, with veins of citrus lemon, ginger and green apples on the persistent finish. This is very fine. ."

91 PTS, THE WINE ADVOCATE

"Light and spicy, on the tart side, with nectarine and floral flavors in tight control, persisting impressively into a long, lithe finish."

90 PTS, WINE SPECTATOR

