

GOLD MEDAL  
WINE CLUB'S

# Pinot Noir Press

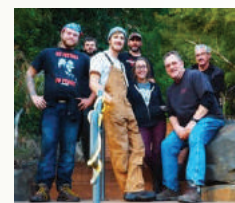


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## CORNERSTONE OREGON

A Willamette Valley based Pinot Noir producer, Cornerstone Oregon is the partnership of two wine industry veterans with a passion for elegant, site-driven wines that express the essence of the vineyard and region.



Started in 2008 as an offshoot of the popular Napa Valley based Cornerstone Cellars, Cornerstone Oregon is a new venture that focuses on Pinot Noir from the Willamette Valley. The entity is a collaboration between Cornerstone Napa's co-owner Craig Camp and renowned Oregon winemaker Tony Rynders. Together, they are producing an exciting lineup of elegant, terroir-driven wines, proving that while the team's philosophy may be unconventional, it is logical and it is more important where the vines put down roots than the winery owners.

Craig Camp is a veteran wine professional with more than three decades of experience in every facet of the industry including importing, exporting, distribution, marketing, sales, and production. Starting in 1980, Craig joined the Direct Import Wine Company as partner and Vice President. He was responsible for sales and the selection of the wine portfolio, which was recognized as one of the most elite in the United States filled with cutting edge wine estates from around the world. In 1995, he was promoted to President, but after a few years, decided to leave and pursue an education in wine production. Craig spent time in Italy working in the cellars of some of the country's most promising estates in Barolo and Barbaresco. He took this

new knowledge and experience back to Napa Valley in 2008 when he joined forces with Cornerstone Cellars' founder Mike Dragutsky and took over the winery operations. Craig helped expand the Cabernet Sauvignon based brand to include numerous other varietals. While longing to make Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, Craig knew that Napa Valley was not the place to make these classically styled, elegant wines. As a result, a totally separate project was born named Cornerstone Oregon.

Craig had many contacts in Oregon and gained access to top-notch vineyards with highly desirable fruit. He reached out to good friend and celebrated winemaker Tony Rynders to craft the wines for the new project, and Cornerstone Oregon was on its way. The inaugural 2008 vintage was a miniscule 50 cases of Pinot Noir. Total production today has grown to just over 2,000 cases, including two Pinot Noirs and a Chardonnay. Coming as no surprise from award-winning winemaker Tony Rynders, many of the Cornerstone Oregon wines have already garnered impressive accolades and ratings from the industry press.

We are proud to introduce this quickly growing, cult-favorite brand to our *Pinot Noir Series* members. Please enjoy Cornerstone Oregon's latest release. Cheers!

## ABOUT THE WINEMAKER



Tony Rynders started in the wine business in 1989, taking a lab position at Mirassou Vineyards in San Jose, California. He worked his way up to the cellar and realized his calling was in making wine. After earning a masters in enology and viticulture from UC Davis, Tony continued to gain winemaking experience in Napa Valley, northern Italy, South Australia, and Tuscany. His most notable position was the ten year stint at Oregon's Domain Serene Winery, during which Tony became one of the most highly acclaimed winemakers in America. He obtained more 90+ Point scores from *Wine Spectator* than any other winemaker during this period of time. In addition to making wine for Cornerstone, Tony also consults for a number of brands and produces wines for his own label, Tendril Wine Cellars.

## CORNERSTONE 2012 PINOT NOIR

Produced from a handful of the Willamette Valley's top vineyards, the Cornerstone Oregon 2012 Pinot Noir is expressive, complex, and delicious. The wine opens with inviting aromas of raspberry jam, cherry cobbler, spice and cola while the palate is juicy and vibrant with flavors of black cherry, raspberry, blueberry, plum, and a touch of spice. The velvety tannins linger on the persistent yet elegant finish. Aged 16 months in oak. 100% Pinot Noir.

Cases Produced: 1,500

Enjoy Now Until: 2020

**94 POINTS**

- *Wine Spectator*

**93 POINTS**

- *Pinotfile*

**92 POINTS**

- *Antonio Galloni's Vinous*



## RECIPES FOR PAIRING

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Willamette Valley, Oregon

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