

# PONZI VINEYARDS

Founded in 1970, Ponzi Vineyards was instrumental in putting Willamette Valley on the map as a world-class wine region. Today, the winery continues to set the standard in Oregon Pinot noir and Chardonnay, elevating the region's reputation as a premier wine country destination.



## Tavola Pinot Noir 2021

Willamette Valley, Oregon

### ESTATE

In the late 1960s Dick and Nancy Ponzi uprooted their family to pursue a dream of producing world class Pinot Noir. After research trips to Burgundy and an extensive search, they purchased 20 acres on a small farm just southwest of Portland, Oregon. They believed the climate, soils and vineyard site meet every need of noble cool-climate grape varieties. The first 4 barrels of wine produced in 1974. At the time, there are 5 bonded wineries in Oregon with 35 acres in production. Ponzi has since become internationally acclaimed for its Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. Today winemaker Luisa Ponzi continues her work of the last 30 years with the family of Champagne Bollinger, which acquired Ponzi Vineyards in 2021. The estate's drive to create distinctly pure Pinot Noir, in a distinctly Oregon manner, has never been stronger.

### WINE

The 2021 Tavola Pinot Noir continues a string of amazing Tavola vintages. While made from lower elevation sites and younger vines, and handled in a way to emphasize a fruit forward character, with soft tannins, anything Luisa Ponzi approaches will have high quality as a prerequisite. Tavola is the type of wine that can be an introduction to Oregon and Willamette Valley Pinot Noir and, with its generous fruit and exotic spice and floral notes, the start of a delicious exploration.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* A blend of Ponzi's Aurora and Avellana Vineyards as well as other vineyards in the Chehalem Mtns, Dune Hills, Eola Hills, and Yamhill-Carlton AVAs.

*Farming:* All Ponzi vineyards have been LIVE Certified Sustainable, the highest international standard of sustainable viticulture. Not only are their 130 acres farmed LIVE, but they encourage all grower partners to meet the same standards.

### WINEMAKING

*Fermentation:* An extended cold soak increases color and aroma. Fermented by native yeasts, the peak temperatures reach 90°F. The wine is aerated or punched down twice a day, then lightly pressed.

*Aging:* French oak for 11 months (20% new). Racked and bottled by gravity.

*Alcohol:* 13.3%

### VINTAGE

After the smoke filled 2020 vintage, and the "heat dome" events in the summer of 2021, the early rains in September refreshed the vines and the fruit started coming in mid-September perfectly clean, ripe, and full of flavor. Reminiscent of 2012, the nights were very cool creating wines with balanced acidity, big aromatics, and delicious full flavors. Yields were somewhat smaller than expected, but that adds to the intensity of color and structure of the wines.

*Robert Parker*  
WINE ADVOCATE

"The light-bodied palate is soft and juicy with crunchy red fruit, generous streaks of allspice and a long, spicy finish. This is easy to drink!" - E.B., 5/2023

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Wine Enthusiast

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