

TALISMAN

International WINE REPORT

March 2016 reviews

by Michael D'Angelo

2012
Adastra
Vineyard
Pinot Noir
Los Carneros

90
POINTS

The 2012 Adastra Vineyard Pinot Noir is pure and fresh, with aromas of Bing cherry, strawberry, black tea, pomegranate, earth, and sweet spice. Very soft on the palate, with lots of delicious red fruit flavors cascading through the wine. Still needs some short-term cellaring and will drink beautifully over the next decade. (Best 2016-2026)

2012
Gunsalus
Vineyard
Pinot Noir
Russian River Valley

91
POINTS

The Gunsalus Vineyard Pinot Noir Pinot comes from Gold ridge sandy loam and aged 20 months. It has a very expressive nose, with aromas of ripe cherries, blackberries, damp forest floor, followed by hints of spice and fresh rose. Great mouth feel with a velvety texture and spicy finish. Showing really well now with some air, and will develop nicely over the next decade. (Best 2016-2026)

2012
Rancho Estrella
Vineyard
Pinot Noir
Napa Valley

92
POINTS

This comes from the Rancho Estrella Vineyard, which is located near the upper end of Lovall Valley. It is made from Pommard, Dijon 115, Dijon 828, aged 21 months, 33% new French oak. It has intense aromas of wild berries, lavender, tar, toasted spice, and blueberries followed by hints of cherry, fresh maple syrup, fresh mineral and deep soil. Lots of pure fruit on the front palate followed by sweet spice, dark chocolate and red currant. This Pinot is very delicious today and will improve with some bottle age. (Best 2016-2026)

2012
Weir
Vineyard
Pinot Noir
Yorkville Highlands

91
POINTS

The 2012 Weir Vineyard Pinot Noir from Talisman comes from vines planted in 1992, grown at 850-1000 ft elevation in loamy clay soils. It displays aromas of wild blackberries, cherry, fresh mineral and savory spice. On the palate this has a balanced attack of red fruit, strawberry, and wild herbs. Overall a very well made Pinot that will benefit from 2-3 years of bottle age and last 10-15 years. (Best 2017-2027)