# The Wine Advocate AUGUST, 2015

by Jeb Dunnuck





CALERA

2012

**RYAN** 

*Pinot Noir* MT. HARLAN

# Calera Pinot Noir de Villiers Vineyard, Mt. Harlan 2012

I loved the 2012 Pinot Noir de Villiers. It's a beautifully complete, balanced and satisfying Pinot Noir that does everything right. Giving up tons of sweet black raspberry and strawberry fruits, spice-box, dried flowers and potpourri characteristics, it's medium to full-bodied, layered and seamless, with a ripe, supple texture that keeps you coming back to the glass. While there's more than enough fruit to keep this enjoyable now, there's some solid tannin and depth in there as well, so it will age. Drink: 2015 - 2025

## Calera Pinot Noir Ryan Vineyard, Mt. Harlan 2012

From one of the cooler terroirs on the estate, the 2012 Pinot Noir Ryan Vineyard offers full-bodied richness and depth to go with ample sweet black cherries, cassis, sassafras, crushed flowers and toasted spice. A decidedly hedonistic, full throttled example of this cuvee, this superb Pinot Noir firms up nicely on the finish and has a full, layered mid-palate. Drink it now, or cellar it for a decade. Drink: 2015 - 2025



POINTS



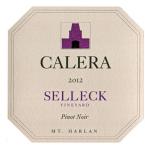


The 2012 Pinot Noir Mills Vineyard comes from 26-year-old own-rooted vines and was harvest September 20 to October 17. Aged 18 months in 30% new French oak, its semi-opaque ruby color is followed by sensational notes of ripe currants and darker fruits, scorched earth, smoked meats, licorice and chalky minerality. Big, rich, full-bodied and layered, with a huge core of fruit that never seems over the top or heavy, this elegant, profound Pinot Noir can be enjoyed anytime over the coming decade or more. Drink: 2015 - 2025



#### CALERA CALERA Zoiz REED VINEYARD Phint Noir MT. HARLAN





## Calera Pinot Noir Reed Vineyard, Mt. Harlan 2012

From a cooler site, the 2012 Pinot Noir Reed Vineyard lacks the weight and depth of some of the other releases, yet has beautifully perfumed and complex notes of sassafras, kirsch, sweet black cherry, pepper and pine resin on the nose. These give way to a medium to full-bodied, seamless, elegant Pinot Noir that has no hard edges, sweet fruit and a forward, yet still focused and balanced profile on the palate. Aged 16 months in roughly 30% new French oak and bottled unfined and unfiltered, it should evolve gracefully through 2022. Drink: 2015 - 2022



#### Calera Pinot Noir Jensen Vineyard, Mt. Harlan 2012

A thrilling Pinot Noir that comes from a 13.8-acre vineyard planted in 1975 on mostly on limestone, at an elevation of 2,200 feet, the 2012 Pinot Noir Jensen Vineyard was harvested September 24 to October 21 and was aged 16 months in 30% new French oak. It offers a dark ruby color to go with a big, sweet nose of cranberry, wild strawberries, crushed flowers, forest floor and spice. Full-bodied, layered and elegant, with a supple, rounded and sexy texture, it packs plenty of fruit, yet is graceful, beautifully balanced and seamless. It's hard to resist now, yet should cruise for a decade in the cellar. Drink: 2015 - 202

# Calera Pinot Noir Selleck Vineyard, Mt. Harlan 2012

Deeper and richer than the Jensen, the blockbuster-style 2012 Pinot Noir Selleck Vineyard comes from vines planted in 1975 and wasn't harvested until October 4. A big, rich, layered Pinot Noir that offers tight, reserved notes of blackcurrants, truffle, crushed rocks, forest floor and sassafras, this beauty hits the palate with full-bodied richness, beautiful acidity and building, fine tannin that come through on the awesome finish. With air, it turns more and more mineral-laced and earthy, showing even a touch of gaminess. This beauty has terrific depth and richness without ever being over the top. Still a baby, give it a few years in the cellar, and enjoy bottles over the following decade. Bravo to Josh Jenson for this smokin' effort! Drink: 2017 - 2027



POINTS