

I just missed meeting Véronique Drouhin when I visited Oregon. I heard that her family had been recipients of a reward for their services to Oregon wine, a reward much deserved because their investment and commitment at such an early stage was pivotal in terms of changing peoples' views. Oregon had to be taken seriously if one of the most established Burgundy houses was buying vineyard land here; a prescient move long before others followed (Comte Liger-Belair, Dominique Lafon, Louis Jadot and now Jean-Nicolas Méo).

I met with managing-director David Millman who took me through their 2014s that are now augmented by recent acquisition of the Roserock Vineyard in Eola-Amity, lending a bit of contrast to their Dundee Hill holdings. David kindly furnished me with information about Roserock. "Roserock is a companion piece to Domaine Drouhin. Related, but different. For the Drouhins, it's a welcome challenge, in a part of the Valley that they have long known and admired. For example, what does the vineyard want to produce? How does one find the elegance here that one finds in the Dundee Hill? Etc. And, for what it's worth, it's not just about the wine, but it's also clearly an affirmation of their belief in Oregon after nearly 30 years here. There's a lot of meaning in that." I also asked David about his views upon 2014. "The quality of the wine isn't the question. They are just beautiful. It was a big vintage with lovely wine," David enthused. "One could drink through the wines happily on release, but I think, as with perhaps 2004 and 1994, both of which have similarities to 2014, there's a lot going on that will become more apparent with time."

Domaine Drouhin has long been a producer whose whites are as worthy of investigation as their reds, and their 2013 Edition Limitée is a very well-crafted wine equal to many of its counterparts over in the Côte d'Or. Their Pinot Noirs are approachable and yet repay cellaring, and a wine like the 2014 Louise will evolve into something quite lovely...if allowed. I also have my eye upon the Roserock Pinot Noir in Eola-Amity, which adds another bow to their arrow. I appreciated the character of this Pinot Noir - showing personality and a wine that I suspect will reward three to four years in the cellar.

### **2014 Domaine Drouhin Roserock Chardonnay – 88+ Points**

A Chardonnay Dry White Table wine from USA , Eola-Amity Hills, Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

eRobertParker.com # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 88+

Drink 2017 - 2024

The 2014 Roserock Chardonnay has a straightforward bouquet that needs more complexity and nervosité to come through. The palate is better with a smooth opening, touches of brioche and smoked walnut here, gently fanning out but not quite delivering the tension on the finish that I was expecting. Perhaps another 12 months in bottle will allow just a little more personality to develop? I'll put a plus sign against my score.

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### **2014 Domaine Drouhin Roserock Pinot Noir – 91+ Points**

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from USA , Eola-Amity Hills, Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 91

Drink 2018 - 2030

The 2014 Roserock Pinot Noir offers blackberry and briary scents on the nose with a touch of earthiness - well defined and quite vivacious in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with dusky blackberry and blueberry fruit. It exerts a gentle grip in the mouth and delivers white pepper sprinkled over the finish that is nicely detailed. This should drink well over the next 8-10 years and at this price, I would be loading up.

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### **2014 Domaine Drouhin Zépherine Pinot Noir – 92 Points**

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from USA , Eola-Amity Hills, Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 92

Drink 2018 - 2035

The 2014 Zépherine Pinot Noir, which is a barrel selection made at the winery, has a gorgeous bouquet, a mixture of red and black fruit, subtle floral notes and cold stone notes. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, pure dark plum, boysenberry and cranberry fruit vying for attention. There is good backbone here but there is still plenty of elegance on the spicy finish that

lingers in the mouth. This has great potential and I am intrigued to see how it ages.

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**2014 Domaine Drouhin Chardonnay Estate Arthur – 89 Points**

A Chardonnay Dry White Table wine from USA , North Willamette Valley, Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 89

Drink 2017 - 2027

The 2014 Chardonnay Estate Arthur is fermented half in tank and half in barrel with blocked malolactic. It has a lifted bouquet with yellow plum and acacia scents infusing the citrus peel aromas. The oak here is nicely integrated. The palate offers nutmeg and sea salt on the entry, a keen line of acidity, quite brisk and lively with a twist of sour lemon mixed with Szechuan pepper on the finish, the latter leaving a pleasant tingle on the tongue.

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**2015 Domaine Drouhin Edition Rose of Pinot Noir – 87 Points**

A Pinot Noir Dry Rose Table wine from USA , North Willamette Valley, Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 87

Drink 2016 - 2019

The 2015 Edition Rosé of Pinot Noir has a generous and lively bouquet with red cherries and candied orange peel on the playful upfront nose. The palate is well balanced, a little weightier than other Oregon Rosé that I tasted, with lively red cherry on the finish. I can see this Rosé gaining wide appeal.

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### **1993 Domaine Drouhin Pinot Noir – 93 Points**

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from USA , , Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 93

Drink 2016 - 2026

The 1993 Pinot Noir was popped open at a dinner during my time in Oregon. It was so good that I have no choice but to report on what is apparently one of Véronique Drouhin's favorite wines. I can see exactly why. It offers a gorgeous, quite rich and substantial bouquet with mulberry and huckleberry aromas, wonderful definition and yet, quite Côte de Beaune-like in style. Surely not a subliminal influence? The palate is medium-bodied with impressive substance, excellent balance and still an abundance of brambly red berry fruit towards the satisfying finish. At 23-years-old, this shows no signs of reaching the end of its drinking plateau. Chapeau!

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### **2012 Domaine Drouhin Pinot Noir Edition Limitee – 91+ Points**

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from USA , North Willamette Valley, Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 91+

Drink 2018 - 2032

The 2014 Pinot Noir Edition Limitee has a dark and quite broody bouquet that takes time to open and it does and offer redcurrant and raspberry fruit, a touch of brown spice surfacing with time. The palate is medium-bodied sweet ripe cranberries dallying with fresh strawberries plus a hint of cola. There is lovely balance in situ and it offers a caressing finish. I would like to see a little more cohesion as it ages in bottle, but if it does, then it will merit a higher evaluation.

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### **2014 Domaine Drouhin Pinot Noir Laurene – 92 Points**

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from USA , , Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 92

Drink 2018 - 2033

The 2014 Pinot Noir Laurene has a complex bouquet with oyster shell and seaweed scents permeating through the red berry fruit, the oak nicely integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with supple ripe red berry fruit, a fine line of acidity and mineralité I like the composure here as it gently fans out and coats the mouth with insistent grip, more blue fruit lingering on the aftertaste. This 2014 offers a higher degree of purity and complexity than the 2013 Pinot Noir Laurène and it should give 15 or more years of pleasure.

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### **2013 Domaine Drouhin Pinot Noir Laurene – 89 Points**

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from USA , , Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 89

Drink 2018 - 2030

The 2013 Pinot Noir Laurene is a barrel selection, although it usually comes from the usual blocks. Matured in around 20% new French oak, it has a lifted bouquet with redcurrant and cranberry scents that seem quite pure and lively. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly chewy tannin on the entry, cranberry and strawberry fruit here tintured by a slight earthiness towards the structured finish Give this a couple of years in bottle.

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### **2014 Domaine Drouhin Pinot Noir Louise – 93 Points**

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from USA , , Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 93

Drink 2020 - 2035

The 2014 Pinot Noir Louise felt a little more backward on the nose compared to the Laurène, the fruit darker with bilberry and dark plum aromas, although there is fine precision here, impressive detail. The palate is medium-bodied with blackberry and dark plum fruit. There is very good backbone here that forms the foundation of a reserved Pinot Noir that will require 2-3 years in bottle once released in 2017, yet the focus and nascent energy here leaves me feeling optimistic for a bright future. This will ultimately evolve into a sophisticated 2014, but unlike the previous vintage, I strongly suspect that patience will be required.

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### **2013 Domaine Drouhin Pinot Noir Louise – 88 Points**

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from USA , , Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 88

Drink 2017 - 2024

The 2013 Pinot Noir Louise has darker berried fruit compared to the Laurène Pinot Noir, very good mineralité and tension here with blackberry leaf emerging with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with rounded tannin on the entry. There is good substance here, quite a firm grip and spiciness with just a little abruptness on the finish that unlike the 2014, leaves you wanting more. Let's see how this develops in bottle and whether it gains substance.

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### **2013 Domaine Drouhin Chardonnay Edition Limitee – 91 Points**

A Chardonnay Dry White Table wine from USA , North Willamette Valley, Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA,

Review by [Neal Martin](#)

*eRobertParker.com* # , #225 (Jun 2016)

Rating: 91

Drink 2017 - 2029

The 2014 Chardonnay Edition Limitee has an elegant bouquet with subtle white flower scents infiltrating the citrus fruit, apricot blossom and a touch of hazelnut emerging with time in the glass. The palate is fresh and vibrant on the entry, quite rounded in the mouth and smooth with veins of spice and orange peel. I would have just liked a little more nervosité to come through on the finish, otherwise this is a top-notch Chardonnay to enjoy over the next decade.