

# Wine Spectator's

November 3, 2021

# Insider Weekly

A First Look at Our Editors' Most Exciting New Wines

## Bergström

Producer Spotlight

### From Sweden to Willamette Valley

John Bergström grew up in an agricultural region of Sweden. Later, he established a successful medical career on the other side of the world in Oregon, eventually moving his family to Dundee in Willamette Valley. It was there he planted 13 acres of vineyards on a gentle, south-facing slope in 1998. The following year, the fourth of Bergström's five children, Josh, returned from a postgraduate program in viticulture and enology in Burgundy, and helped produce the family's first vintage.

Today, the Bergströms farm 70 acres of estate Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Syrah vines in three American Viticultural Areas (AVAs): Ribbon Ridge, Dundee Hills and Chehalem Mountains. From the beginning, Josh Bergström has followed strict biodynamic growing methods, convinced it produces healthier vines that can thrive even under challenging conditions. And in 2020, the winery switched to using only estate fruit, no longer buying or selling grapes.

Stylistically, Bergström Pinot Noirs combine tension and intensity with savory, complex and polished flavors, and generally show their best after a few years in the cellar. Josh Bergström practices whole-cluster fermentation and uses no more than 15 percent new French oak before aging the wines in bottle for a year.—*Tim Fish*



Bergström's 2-acre Winery Block is the estate's smallest vineyard. ©WK Photography



## **BERGSTRÖM**

**Pinot Noir Chehalem Mountains Silice  
2019**

**95 points | \$80 | 611 cases made | Red**

Polished, rich and luscious, offering vibrant black raspberry, baking spice and savory anise flavors. A knockout of a Pinot. Drink now through 2030. —*T.F.*



## **BERGSTRÖM**

**Pinot Noir Chehalem Mountains Winery  
Block 2019**

**94 points | \$85 | 231 cases made | Red**

Generous yet finely structured, offering vibrant raspberry and tart blueberry flavors that draw in orange peel and spice accents. Drink now through 2029. —*T.F.*



## **BERGSTRÖM**

**Pinot Noir Eola-Amity Hills Temperance  
Hill Vineyard 2019**

**94 points | \$70 | 267 cases made | Red**

A compelling Pinot, with distinctive, multilayered black cherry and guava flavors that are laced with dusky spice and saffras, finishing with fine-grained tannins. Drink now through 2030. —*T.F.*



## **BERGSTRÖM**

**Pinot Noir Yamhill-Carlton Gregory Ranch  
2019**

**94 points | \$60 | 478 cases made | Red**

Polished and expressive, with rose petal, black raspberry and spiced tea flavors that expand and flesh out on the savory finish. Drink now through 2029. —*T.F.*



## **BERGSTRÖM**

**Pinot Noir Ribbon Ridge Le Pré Du Col  
Vineyard 2019**

**95 points | \$80 | 686 cases made | Red**

A lovely red, refined and generous, with vibrant black cherry flavors accented by wildflower, orange peel and dusky spice, building structure toward refined tannins. Drink now through 2030. —*T.F.*



## **BERGSTRÖM**

**Pinot Noir Dundee Hills Bergström  
Vineyard 2019**

**94 points | \$110 | 428 cases made | Red**

Combines brooding depth with handsome black cherry and plum flavors, which draw in black tea and spice box accents. Drink now through 2029. —*T.F.*



## **BERGSTRÖM**

**Pinot Noir Ribbon Ridge La Spirale 2019**

**94 points | \$80 | 511 cases made | Red**

Expressive and elegantly structured, with generous raspberry and strawberry flavors and fresh violet notes that linger on a long, supple finish. Drink now through 2029. —*T.F.*



## **BERGSTRÖM**

**Pinot Noir Willamette Valley Cumberland  
Reserve 2019**

**93 points | \$42 | 7,176 cases made | Red**

Generous and structured, with savory raspberry, tarragon and black tea flavors that build tension toward refined tannins. Drink now through 2030. —*T.F.*