On Point Winemaker's Selection Pinot Noir, North Coast

Wine Enthusiast

Fulcrum 2023 On Point Winemaker's Selection Pinot Noir, North Coast

The nose has layers of savoy spice—sagebrush, allspice, nutmeg—wrapped around dark plum, black currant confiture, sweet vanilla bean, and dried potpourri. These flavors translate onto the palate as juicy yet tart layers of fruit roll-ups, clove, cardamom, cream soda, and a hardy amount of spiced mineral on the finish. — T.P **92 Points**

Owen Bargreen

Fulcrum 2023 On Point Winemaker's Selection Pinot Noir, North Coast

The really good 2023 Fulcrum 'On Point Winemaker's Selection' Pinot Noir is juicy, bright and generous, loaded with pomegranate and red cherry fruit flavors, with silty soils. Drink 2025-2031 **91 Points**

Wine Enthusiast

2019 On Point Winemaker's Selection Pinot Noir, North Coast

The nose has layers of savoy spice—sagebrush, allspice, nutmeg—wrapped around dark plum, black currant confiture, sweet vanilla bean, and dried potpourri. These flavors translate onto the palate as juicy yet tart layers of fruit roll-ups, clove, cardamom, cream soda, and a hardy amount of spiced mineral on the finish. **92 Points** — Tonya Pitts

2019 On Point Winemaker's Selection Pinot Noir, North Coast

This lively, fruity and deliciously nervy wine is jazzed up by tasty raspberry and red-cherry flavors on light tannins and snappy acidity. It feels medium bodied and there is plenty of ripeness to balance the tangy structure. **91 Points** – *J.G. July 2021*

PinotFile

2018 On Point Winemaker's Selection Pinot Noir, North Coast

A blend of grapes from Gap's Crown, Hogan's Run and Conzelman vineyards. Aged 11 months in French oak barrels, 24% new. Moderately light garnet color in the glass. Aromas of black raspberry, cherry, vanilla and mushroom earthiness rise up from the glass. Well-endowed with juicy flavors of spicy dark red cherry and blackberry with a modicum of oak in the background. Nicely balanced tannins and forthright acidity with a lip-smacking finish. **90 Points** – *Rusty Gaffney, May 2020*

Wine Enthusiast

2018 On Point Winemaker's Selection Pinot Noir, North Coast

This light to medium-bodied wine shows a charming, fresh and fruity personality backed by lip-smacking acidity and tannins. It tastes absolutely appetizing and palate-cleansing and has the verve to age well through 2025. Blended from Sonoma Coast, Russian River and Anderson Valley grapes. **92 Points** – *J.G. July 2020*

Wine Enthusiast

2017 On Point Winemaker's Selection Pinot Noir (North Coast)

Generous aromas, warm and ripe fruit flavors and a gentle, mouth coating texture make this wine practically irresistible. Blended from top vineyards in three counties, it is full bodied, bursting with black cherries and raspberries, handsomely sprinkled with oak spices of cinnamon, nutmeg and clove and bolstered by fine-grained tannins. **92 Points** – *J.G. August 2019*

Wine Enthusiast

On Point 2016 Christinna's Cuvee Pinot Noir(North Coast). This wine is warm and welcoming, starting with ripe plum and cherry-compote aromas, then presenting rich cherry-pie flavors that are generous but not sweet and a soothing smooth texture with just a touch of tannin. **90 Points; Highly Recommended** - *Jim Gordon. May 2018*

PinotFile

2016 On Point Christinna's Cuvee, North Coast Pinot Noir A blend of grapes from Gap's Crown, Wildcat Mountain and Donnelly Creek Vineyards. Moderate garnet color in the glass. Lovely marriage of dark berry fruit and oak aromas. More refinement and restraint than the On Point Sonoma Coast bottling, featuring mid weight flavors of black cherry, blackberry and black raspberry. Creamy in the mouth, with modest tannins, integrated oak and a coasting finish. While the Sonoma Coast bottling is more thundering, the Christinna's is more symphonic. **91 Points; Outstanding** - *Rusty Gaffney, April 2018*

Wine Enthusiast

2015 On Point Christinna's Cuvee Pinot Noir

This fascinating medium-bodied wine has a wild streak that first brings rhubarb and forest-floor aromas, then deep dark flavor nuances like mushroom, black cherry and more tangy rhubarb. It has good acidity and fine-grained tannins to support all that complexity. It offers all the complexity one looks for in a Pinot. **92 Points Excellent; Highly recommended** - *Jim Gordon, October 2017*

Wine Enthusiast

2014 On Point Christinna's Cuvee Pinot Noir

Full bodied and definitely fruity without being sweet, this wine from Fulcrum comes straight at the taste buds with opulent black cherry and tart raspberry flavors on a vivid texture. Having

spent 15 months in French oak before bottling, it tastes a bit dense and muted at this point, and should be best after 2018. **90 Points Excellent; Highly recommended** - *Jim Gordon, March 2017*

PinotFile

2014 On Point Christinna's Cuvée North Coast Pinot Noir A blend of 23% Landy Vineyard, 33% Donnelly Creek Vineyard and 44% Gap's Crown Vineyard grapes. Aged 15 months in French oak, 19% new. Moderately light reddish purple hue in the glass. A delightful blended wine offering aromas of cherry, spice, herb field and cigar box leading to a mid weight core of Bing cherry and spice flavors backed by silky tannins. A very cozy and easy to like wine that finishes with a charge of black cherry and raisin notes. Still styling the following day from a previously opened and re-corked bottle. **91 Points; Outstanding** - *Rusty Gaffney, August 2016*

PinotReport

2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"Medium ruby color; restrained black cherry and plum aromas with deep notes of earth, spice and cola; firm, expressive flavors of dark fruits with earth and spice notes; good structure and balance; long finish. Firm and expressive Pinot with lots of dark, complex fruit flavors." **91 Points, Smart Buy!** - *Greg Walter, March 2016*

Beverage Dynamics

2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

This lushly textured pinot noir displays restrained nuances of mocha in the nose and palette, followed by rich flavors of dark chocolate covered cherries, cassis, earth and spice. Wispy hints of wood smoke appear in the lengthy finish. **92 Points** - *February 2016*

Forbes

Fulcrum 2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvee Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley) This wine impressed me when I first opened it but what clinched my admiration, and inspired this column, was the way, two days later, it had opened up splendidly and acquired that mellow, soft earthiness I associate with old, fine wine. The acidity had rounded out and it tasted not as a two year old Pinot should taste, but a twelve year old one. It showed a **harmonious melding of bright raspberry and blackberry crispness** with the mature autumnal flavors of ripe plums. -*Nick Passmore November 27, 2015*

Wine Enthusiast

2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvee Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley)

This smooth, tasty, very well-balanced wine glides over the palate and tastes like Bing cherry spiced with cinnamon and nutmeg. Fresh acidity and fine, firm tannins support the flavors well and keep the wine appetizing and mouthwatering, even in the aftertaste. **91 Points Excellent; Highly recommended** *Jim Gordon, December 2015*

Wine Review Online

2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"My recent blind tasting of several California Pinot Noirs included two wines that delighted me. The brand was On Point, a label of Fulcrum Wines, and the wines were a 2013 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir and a 2013 Anderson Valley Pinot Noir…both wines are excellent. On Point 2013

Christinna's Cuvée from Anderson Valley is, to my taste, a more autumnal Pinot Noir. Its aromas and flavors are more subtle and less fresh-fruity than those of the Sonoma Coast wine; along with cherry notes, the aroma suggests spice and evergreen, and the flavors hint at underbrush, earth and meatiness. Also, the wine is slightly more tannic than the Sonoma Coast Pinot, providing more gravitas. Of the two, this is perhaps the more sophisticated wine. On the table, the Anderson Valley wine had the edge because its earthy tones and more subtle fruitiness harmonize beautifully with a wider range of dishes." **90 Points** *-Mary Ewing-Mulligan, July 2015*

D Magazine

"Luscious California Pinot Noir"

"Perhaps **one of the best regions for growing incredible Pinot Noir** in California is Anderson Valley. The wines that are coming out of the rustic vineyards of the coastal region of Mendocino County have richness, complexity, incredible varietal character and finesse."

2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"Other Anderson Valley wineries that continue to get it right include Fulcrum Wines, and their sister winery On Point from self-taught winemaker David Rossi. Though he produces Pinot Noir from fruit grown throughout Northern California, his On Point Christinna's Cuvee from Donnelly Creek Vineyard in Anderson Valley leaps from the glass with finesse, elegance and richness. The small production wine is filled with layers of black fruit, sweet spice and wild flowers."
-Hayley Hamilton Cogill, July 2015

The Hollywood Reporter

2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"With only 198 cases of this wine **you'll be hard pressed to find a Pinot Noir of this quality and value**. Hailing from the Anderson Valley in Mendocino, itself a slice of American life in that the region had its own micro language called Boontling ('frattey shams' meant grape vines), this Pinot Noir is supple, soft and with a enough acidity to make it stand up to picnic foods. Earthy spice, bright strawberry and dark cherry meld for a seamless wine that is on point as to how Pinot Noir should be. In spite of the oak barrels and the Pommard clone being undeniably French, Mendocino makes this a truly American iteration with a forward, lively wine."
-Michael Cervin, July 2015

Capital Gazette

"Here are some other notable pinot noirs to consider:"

2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"Fulcrum winemaker David Rossi created this brand to 'explore another expression of pinot noir.' Using grapes from the same Donnelly Creek Vineyard and goes into the Fulcrum, he has a brighter, more vibrant pinot noir in the Christina's Cuvee."
-Tom Marquardt & Patrick Darr, September 2015

Wine Review Online

2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir "Winemaker David Rossi created this label to show a different side of Pinot Noir than his Fulcrum wines. Whereas the Fulcrum line tends toward

more structure and age-worthiness, this bottle shows a fresher, more approachable style. Another nice Anderson Valley '13, it focuses on Bright cherry and cola flavors, with light notes of earthy minerality and brown spice. A sweet oak spice note and a touch of stemmy character round out the nicely integrated package. I'd try the pork tenderloin and chimichurri angle as a pairing." **90 Points**
-Rich Cook, August 2015

Restaurant Wine
"A pair of excellent Pinot Noirs"
2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvee Pinot Noir
"Christinna's Cuvee is velvety in texture, finely flavored (rose petal, cherry, plum, white pepper), full bodied, and balanced, with a long finish. Warrants modest aging." **4 Stars: Excellent quality for its type, style, and price. Among the very best of its type for its price. Highly recommended**
-Ronn Wiegand, August 2015

The Detroit News
"Meet Fulcrum's David Rossi: A self-taught artist with Pinot Noir"
"He is an artisan producer of Fulcrum and On Point Pinot Noirs from some of California's top vineyards and earning praise from *Wine Enthusiast* magazine, blogger Dan Berger and columnist Anthony Dias Blue. **Rossi's Fulcrum wines have deep color with pronounced tannins and complex structures. His other label, On Point, emphasizes vibrant flavors, silky tannins and an immediately alluring personality**, as he describes it. He stresses these are 'stylistic distinctions — not quality ones.'"
2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir
"The lovely, graceful On Point Christinna's Cuvee is named for Rossi's wife. It's earthy and spicy, with cherry, cola, mushroom, forest floor flavors buoyed by supple tannins and firm acidity."
-Sandra Silfven, August 2015

Wine Lines Online
Featured Wines
2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir
"The 2013 On Point Pinot Noir is a vibrant translucent light garnet color, evoking impressions of menthol, clove, vanilla, cherry cola, black cherry and a hint of raspberry. The baking spices expand in the mouth, where the sleek and feminine personality of the wine engages, leading to a finish that shows just a hint of earth. A little bit of grip in the back end bodes well for mid-term aging, but why wait? This gem is ready to enjoy now." **90 Points**
-Glen Frederiksen and Bob Johnson, June 2015

Wine Enthusiast
2012 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir
"**This one is all about elegant balance, electric acidity** and mild but angular tannins that seem to light up the palate while the fresh red cherry and raspberry flavors soothe and satisfy. It's medium-bodied, very firm in texture and flavorful without being overdone." **90 Points: Excellent; Highly recommended**
-Jim Gordon, February 2015

Houston Lifestyles & Homes

2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"Produced and bottled by Fulcrum Winery, which set out to create a wine of 'elegance, grace and beauty.' Success! Colorful, classy label, and a great bargain."

-Denman Moody, August 2015

Newsday

"**2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir** is balanced, forward, berried."

-Peter Gianotti, July 2015

D Magazine

2013 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"**One of the best Pinot Noirs I have tried lately** was the subtle, refined On Point Christinna's Cuvee Anderson Valley Pinot Noir from David Rossi of Fulcrum Wines. Wow! Smooth, elegant and rich from one of the warmer parts of the Donnelly Creek Vineyard in Anderson Valley (fast becoming **'the' area for Pinot Noir**) named after David's wife, Christinna. Elegant, juicy and fresh with layers of cola, cherry and forest floor, enhanced with sweet spice and wild flowers."

-Hayley Hamilton Cogill, June 2015

PinotFile

Anderson Valley: Newfound Perception of Quality

"Anderson Valley Pinot Noir stands with the best California has to offer. The wines are among the most treasured in California not only by the pinotphile cognoscenti but the general consumer as well."

2012 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"Moderate reddish purple color in the glass. Bright aromas of Bing cherry elevate from the glass. Middleweight core of cherry, spice and cola flavors backed by integrated tannins. The finish is very pleasing, lingering with a kiss of cherry." **90 Points; Outstanding**

-Rusty Gaffney, July 2014

Burghound

2012 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"An admirably cool, pure and layered nose speaks of plum, violets, spice and touches of red and black cherry. **I very much like the palate feel of the delicious and very round middle weight flavors that offer both good complexity** and solid persistence on the dusty and **balanced finish**. This could easily be enjoyed young or held for a few years to good effect." **90 Points**

-Allen Meadows, April 2015

PinotReport

2012 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"Medium-deep ruby color; spicy cherry aromas with cinnamon notes; rich, ripe, cherry flavors with spice and earthy notes; **good structure and balance; long finish**. Spicy, rich Pinot that's drinking well now." **90 Points, Smart Buy! Outstanding, approaching the best**

-Greg Walter, July 2014

Restaurant Wine

2012 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"A complex wine that is full bodied, moderately rich, balanced, and long on the palate with a persistent finish, tasting of plum, blueberry, raspberry, cedar, sage, and toast. Excellent; will develop over the next few years. From Donnelly Creek Vineyard." **4 out of 5 Stars: Excellent quality for its type, style, and price. Among the very best of its type for its price. Highly Recommend**
-Ronn Wiegand, April 2015

Dan Berger's Vintage Experiences
New Pinot Star in Ascendancy
"Rossi's wine brand, Fulcrum, is **a stellar new entrant to U.S. PN ranks because of superb quality.** Each vineyard-designated wine is a unique statement, which is seen when you taste all the wines side by side … **the aromas, tastes, and structures of the wines are near-perfect and much better than most higher-priced PNs**. The key to all these wines is the finesse they show without lacking any of the depth of fruit and richness that will be a part of each wine in a year or more … **each wine is so stellar that they are destined to become impossible to find in a year or two—when the word gets out**."
2011 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir
"Also from the Londer Vineyard, it has slightly more rustic notes, but the bright fruit of the earlier wine is evident, and the **delicately rustic nature** of the wine (along with a tad of tea) is based on the Swan Clone of PN. **A bargain**." **Exceptional**
-Dan Berger, October 2013

PinotReport
2010 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir
"Medium ruby color; bright, forward spicy cherry aromas; rich, bright, cherry flavors with **vibrant acidity, silky texture; good structure and balance; long finish**. Vibrant, spicy Pinot that's perfect for sipping on its own." **91 Points**
-Gregory Walter, September 2012

Wine Review Online
Recalibrating My Pinot Noir Benchmarks
"Thanks to David, **I discovered a winery that was new to me, and well worth knowing.** I tasted six
impressive Pinot Noir wines from four different terroirs in California. In the end **I recommend any Pinot from Fulcrum Wines – whether Fulcrum label or On Point – that you are able to get your hands on. Pinot Noir aficionados deserve to know about these wines**."
2011 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir
"I preferred the Anderson Valley wine for its **amazing, stealth acidity that seemed to magically balance the wine's soft texture**."
-Mary Ewing-Mulligan, November 2013

The New Jersey Star-Ledger
Jersey Winemaker's Affair with California Pinot Noir
"None of the Fulcrum wines showed signs of alcohol or candied aroma or flavor, flaws that many enology-schooled winemakers repeatedly make with pinot noir. **Rossi has submerged himself in the art of making pinot noir and vineyard selections, and as he sank into the wine world he never lost his balance**."
2011 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir

"**I am immediately struck by the refined aromas and elegant texture** of Christinna's Cuvée. Its alluring strawberry, cherry and basil scents lead to ripe red fruit flavors laced with soft tannins and mellow acidity. Even after two hours, the 2011 Fulcrum On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir remains a wonderfully flavorful, harmonious wine."
-John Foy, March 2014

PinotReport
"For David and Christinna Rossi, founders of Fulcrum Wines, the metaphor of a fulcrum being a point of balance for a lever is what their Pinot venture is all about. They strive for elegance and balance in their wines."
2011 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir
"Medium ruby color; spicy cherry aromas with some oak notes; rich, juicy cherry flavors with earth and oak notes; **silky texture; good structure and balance; long finish**. Rich, juicy Pinot that's drinking well now. Definitely opens up with some time in the glass." **91 Points**
-Greg Walter, April 2013

Examiner
Fulcrum Wines: Crazy for Pinot Noir
"**David Rossi makes some incredible wines**."
2009 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir
"On Point 2009 Christinna's Cuvée is made from Pinot Noir grapes from California's North Coast. Named after Rossi's wife, Christinna, **this is one gorgeous wine**. There are aromas of spice and floral, cola and earth with a hint of toasty graham cracker on the nose. The flavors are bright with notes of strawberry, cherry, pomegranate, and citrus to awaken the palate. The oak is well integrated and adds a bit of toast on the finish. This wine is very well-balanced and elegant. **David Rossi is an impressive new producer already garnering great scores. These wines are indeed something special**."
-Barbara Hay, August 2011

PinotReport
2009 On Point Christinna's Cuvée Pinot Noir
"Medium ruby color; spicy strawberry and cherry aromas; rich, strawberry and cherry flavors with spicy, cinnamon notes; silky texture; good structure and balance; long finish. Spicy, easy drinking Pinot with bright flavors." **92 Points**
-Gregory Walter, January 2012