

Lenné Winemaker Comparison

Steve Lutz made Lenné wines from 2004 through the 2021 vintage. Steve's goal was to leverage the dreadfully rocky soil of the Lenné vineyard to create exceptionally big, bold, fruit-driven pinot noir. Steve inoculated the fermentation tanks for a more rapid fermentation, and barreled with a higher % of new oak to craft pinot noir that showed very fruity and full-bodied when young. Steve strongly recommends bottle aging at least 3 years, and thinks his pinots hit their prime 8+ years after bottling. See his vintage chart on our website for drinking/aging recommendations.



Jared Etzel took over as Lenné's winemaker with the 2022 vintage. Jared always crafts his wines to reflect the terroir of the vineyard, and for Lenné he aims to create dense, fruit-forward pinots with exceptional complexity. Jared uses native yeast for a more gradual fermentation process, varies the barreling time from vintage to vintage, and bottles the wine unfined/unfiltered, which yields a richer mouthfeel and texture. Jared's wines are balanced and intricate right out of the barrel, and Jared forecasts that they will only grow richer and more complex with bottle aging time.

Lenné Estate Vintage Rundown

2021. An all time great vintage. Hot early and warm throughout. The resulting wines are excellent, with big fruit flavors, balanced by bright acidity and firm tannins..

"Even ripening and moderate weather produced a classic Oregon Pinot Noir vintage. The wines are full of bright cherry and chocolate notes, and were very drinkable right out of the barrel.. They are moderate in color but full of juicy cherry and mocha notes with gorgeous texture. You can drink all these wines tonight and enjoy them but they will age well over a decade. The Sad Jack is the best we have ever produced."

--Steve Lutz, winemaker

2022. The most challenging growing year since 2011. A cold Spring culminated with several inches of snow in mid-April. May & June continued dank, and by mid-July the vines were 6 weeks behind their usual ripening pace. Thankfully, the late arriving Summer kicked in the door, and we saw a record number of days above 90° during August and September, with clear dry weather into October. We harvested the grapes October 18-21st, about a month later than usual.

The fruit that ripened was very good. Unfortunately a lot of the berries did not fertilize (*millerandage*) during the cold and wet Spring, and we also suffered some powdery mildew due to the early damp. We used only the best of the fruit from Lenné vineyard, leaving over half the vineyard unharvested, and supplemented our Estate fruit with purchases from two other premium vineyards, Stardance Vineyard in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA, and Case Vineyard in the Chehalem Mountains AVA.

2023. An excellent vintage, much like 2021 (2024 was great as well). A mild Spring started the year off well, and we saw a sunny but not excessively hot Summer. A classic vintage, sure to produce bold, fruit-forward, classically-Oregon style pinot noirs.

Lenné 2025 April Pickup Wine Club Release

Welcome to the first Lenné wine club release of 2025, and the first in our newly-renovated tasting room! We are so pleased to welcome all of our club members back to the new Lenné.

This release features three wines, one of which can be customized to anything you like!

2021 Karen's Pommard clone pinot noir

Lenné vineyard has two blocks of Pommard, but we always source the Karen's from the smaller, higher elevation block in the northwest corner of our vineyard. That rockier soil produces a lower fruit yield with darker skins and more concentrated flavors.

The Pommard is typically one of our biggest pinots, and the 2021 vintage is a prime example. Floral aromatics with a hint of cherry and wet stone, flavors of blueberry and Bing cherry, minerality in the mouthfeel, and notes of mocha and baking spice over a fine-grained tannic finish.

Karen is named after Lenné's co-founder and the wife of Steve Lutz, our founding winemaker. Karen is also the daughter of the distinguished gentlemen on our classic label, and as we joke in the tasting room, she is "the Karen" not "a Karen".

2022 Lenné Star Dance Vineyard pinot noir

The 2022s are our first vintage made by our new winemaker, Jared Etzel. Jared's wines show balance and complexity even when young, and will only improve with bottle aging.

The Stardance vineyard is located in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA, about 5 miles northwest of Lenné Estate. It is about as similar to Lenné as a vineyard can be, with an almost identical elevation and southeast orientation. It has the same Peavine soil type, plus it's planted with nearly the same clones – Pommard plus three Dijon clones,

This 2022 Star Dance shows aromatics of chocolate, warm earth, ripe blackberry, and vanilla. Flavors include herbal tea, candied, pear, and marshmallow, with a soothing, textured mouthfeel and supple finish.

2021 Lenné Estate pinot noir

This wine can be customized in this club release – swap it out for any other wine.

The Lenné Estate is our flagship wine, typically made from all five of our pinot clones, and always at least 50% Pommard. The 2021 is bold and full-bodied from a hot year, and it shows aromatics of candied cherries, flavors of blueberry and black cherry, a succulent mouthfeel, and mildly-drying tannins on the finish.

Our 2021 Estate is 65% of the Pommard clone, with the Dijon 114, 115, and 667 clones making up the balance.

April 2025 Club Pickup:

Wine #1: 2021 Karen's Pommard clone, \$70 retail

Wine #2: 2022 Star Dance Vineyard pinot noir, \$70 retail

Wine #3: Member's choice! (Orders not customized by Monday April 22nd will receive the 2021 Lenné Estate, \$60 retail.)

- ❖ Retail price: \$200.
- ❖ Roostock Club: 10% off = \$180
- ❖ Founder's Club 15% off = \$170
- ❖ Taproot Silver 15% off = \$340 (6 bottles)