

**B-****Benton-Lane**

2003 Pinot Noir

Oregon

\$20.00

**Summary:** Intense scarlet color. Vaporous aromas of leather-accented wild cherry fruit, with a light lavender crème overlay. Flavors of dried cherry fruit with a bitter edge of anise and tar are forceful on the tongue. Nicely structured, the acidity is brisk and the tannins are relatively smooth and plentiful, showing some dried wood on the sour cherry finish.



**Comments:** This pinot has a dark overall cast, and lacks fruit sweetness, but it is potently flavored with tart fruit and shows the potential for softening with age. Benton-Lane's estate vineyards were used for this wine. They use a technique they call "pneumatage," that involves injecting large air bubbles into the fermenting tank to gently break up the cap of skins that forms. Winemaker Damian North made 17,209 cases.