

# RAVINES Sparkling Brut 2013

93 points Decanter

## **TASTING NOTES**

Aged en tirage for six years on the lees allowing nuance and balance to meld with ripe, fresh fruit and vibrant minerality. Delicate bubbles, crisp, dry baking spices and a saline note that produces a complex sparkler with depth and staying power. One of the few limestone sites in the Finger Lakes region.

#### **VINEYARD**

- ~ 53% Pinot Noir and 47% Chardonnay from Argetsinger Vineyard, Seneca Lake, Finger Lakes AVA, NY
- ~ Argetsinger has high altitude, western exposure, Howard gravel over limestone soil & VSP trellis system
- ~ Original vines are from the mid-60s and were field grafted to the Martini clone of Pinot Noir in mid-80s
- Chardonnay block is 34 years old and comes from the Colmar clone

## **GROWING SEASON**

- An average growing season in terms of temperature and rainfall in the Finger Lakes; perfect for traditional sparkling wines of Champagne varietals
- ~ All Hand-harvested, with dates of 9/16-17 for the Pinot Noir and 9/26 for the Chardonnay grapes
- Yields of 2.8 tons/acre for the Pinot Noir and 3.2 tons/acre for the Chardonnay
- ~ Pinot Noir harvested at 19.3 Bx, and Chardonnay at 19.0 Bx

## **WINEMAKING**

- ~ Long, gentle, whole cluster press cycle
- Low temperature fermentation in stainless steel tanks
- ~ Bottled in May 2014
- ~ Second fermentation complete by August 2014
- ~ Long lees aging to improve foam structure and fine bubbles
- Hand riddled and disgorged during first half of 2019 (1 pallet), rest during 2020
- ~ Dosage introduces only 3 g/l sugar to finish with about 5 g/l RS

#### **ANALYSIS**

~ Alc. 12.5%, T.A. 9.7 g/l, pH 3.09, RS 5 g/l

# **STORY & PHILOSOPHY**

Ravines Wine Cellars makes dry, classical, terroir-driven wines on over 130 acres of estate vineyards. Founded in 2001 and family-owned and operated ever since by Morten and Lisa Hallgren, Morten was raised and trained as an oenologist / winemaker in Provence and Bordeaux France, before moving to the region and pioneering the bone-dry, mineral-tinged Riesling style that the region is now famous for. Ravines utilizes minimal intervention in the cellar and employs sustainable winegrowing practices on steep-sloping vineyards with limestone and shalestone soils. Our wines have continually gained noteworthy press and international accolades as a standard-bearer Finger Lakes winery.