

2023 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

This alluring wine opens with notes of sarsaparilla, Bing cherries, and ripe wild strawberries. Do not let the Russian River Valley Pinot Noir's seductive introduction fool you, it is a complex wine. Layered notes of anise and dried sage encourage the drinker to explore the depth of flavors in the glass. The palate beautifully combines citrus and tea notes with velvety tannins and a lengthy finish.

THE VINEYARDS

The Pinot Noir for this blend was sourced from the following vineyards: Drake, Hallberg, Laguna, Martaella, Rochioli Riverblock, Saitone Estate, and Williams Selyem Estate.

HARVEST 2023

We experienced a welcome sense of normality in 2023, after tumultuous weather patterns during previous growing seasons, including drought conditions, heat events, and hail. This vintage began auspiciously with historical average rainfall and modest temperatures at the start of bud break. Ample sunshine and early heat resulted in even growth of the canopies, creating uniformity and balance as the vines entered the flowering cycle. While it was similarly cool at the outset of 2011, the 2023 heat units built slowly, and the weather was ideal by May. The flowering period was quick, and the fruit set bountiful. The weather was perfect in June and July, with a few heat spikes that kept the plants healthy and sustained. Mid-season crop adjustments were necessary to ensure good vine balance as veraison approached. With the cooler start to the vintage and the normal fog pattern of August, the ripening cycle slowed, and the crop achieved ideal hang time for tannin development at modest sugars. Across the board, the wines exhibit terrific purity of character with excellent tannin resolution. While hot and dry years can create wines of shocking intensity, these cooler vintages showcase the elegant style of Williams Selyem.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 41% new, 59% 1 yr. Barrel Aged: 11 months pH: 3.55 TA: 0.58g/100mL Alc: 13.8% Released 2025

