



2023 Foss Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Creamy berry fruit aromas are alluring and inviting. Wood spices perfectly complement the aromas and add depth. Purple flowers and fresh herbs further highlight this otherwise brooding wine. The site offers a complex array of flavors, with its sloping hillsides and a mixture of loam and gravel. Voluptuous on the entry, the palate explodes with dark berry fruits in the mid-palate with hints of underbrush and allspice on the finish. The tannins are seamlessly integrated and give a sense of roundness and richness that is appealing today but will age gracefully in the near term.

THE VINEYARD

The Foss Vineyard sits above Eastside Road in the Middle Reach region of the Russian River Valley. With a fine, clay loam soil type and a temperate microclimate, this site is extremely well drained and therefore an excellent site for Pinot Noir. Planted to Pommard, Swan, and Mt. Eden, together they offer a rich and complex palette to draw from in blending this incredibly rich and complex wine.

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: 70% new, 30% 1yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.44

TA: 0.62g/100mL

Alc: 13.8%

Released 2025

