

2023 Lewis MacGregor Estate Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Named in honor of John Dyson's grandfather, who was instrumental in John's journey and love of agriculture, the Lewis MacGregor Estate Vineyard is located on the east side of the Russian River and enjoys a sunny, hilltop exposition on well drained, rocky soils. Planted to an outstanding array of Pinot Noir clones, the wine is showy yet retains harmony and balance. Aromas of a basket of warm summer fruits come to mind with hints of tea, citrus, and wood spices. Predominantly Pommard and Swan, the wine has tremendous concentration owing to the small berries but is leavened by perfect acidity and freshness. Fresh herbs on the nose and palate offer further complexity from this outstanding site.

THE VINEYARD

The Lewis MacGregor Estate Vineyard is nestled in on the ridgeline between Eastside Road and Starr Road and has a wonderfully well drained sandy loam soil with interspersed stream gravel. Named in honor of John Dyson's grandfather, the vineyard has a moderate micro-climate and is perfectly suited to Pinot Noir and Chardonnay to yield wines with character and verve.

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: 62% new, 38% 1yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.40

TA: 0.59g/100mL

Alc: 14.1% Released 2025

