



# 2023 Precious Mountain Vineyard Pinot Noir

## WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Savory and brooding, Precious Mountain Pinot Noir is an enigma. Perched high up on the Sonoma Coast, the aromas and flavors are all about wild herbs, dusty and dark fruits. Wood spices complement the nose, along with hints of cedar and terra cotta. At first taste, the tannic nature of this rugged site shows through and melds into cherry fruits and citrus peel. Minerals and crushed rocks are highlighted on the finish. As usual, this wine will require some patience to fully reach its potential.

## THE VINEYARD

Precious Mountain, located in the Sonoma Coast appellation, sits atop the second mountain ridge in from the Pacific Coast, near Fort Ross. This is a very small vineyard planted on steep slopes at an elevation of 1,750 feet. At this elevation coastal breezes, not fog, are responsible for Precious Mountain's cool evenings and moderate daytime temperatures. The vineyard is dry farmed which produces intense flavors.

## 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: 67% new, 33% 1yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.48

TA: 0.60g/100mL

Alc: 14.0%

Released 2025

