

2023 Savoy Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Layered and complex, the aromatics showcase the unique Savoy Vineyard. Located deep in the Anderson Valley, near Hendy Woods, it is perfectly situated with a sunny exposition, but in a rather cool and windy site. Slow and methodical ripening brings tremendous layers to the nose and palate. Notes of black cherry, blue fruits, and hints of fresh herbs mix with allspice and nutmeg. A touch of orange peel adds further intrigue. Equally as complex on the palate, the black cherry and blue fruit flavors mix with citrus and tea-like elements. The wine builds impressively with fine-grained tannins and a firm punctuated finish. Savoy is a grand cru level site and has been a terrific addition to our Anderson Valley portfolio of wines.

THE VINEYARD

Located just past the town of Philo in the northwest end of Anderson Valley, the Savoy Vineyard was planted by Richard Savoy in 1991. The gently sloping site is 44 southwest-facing acres and is planted to both Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. The cooler, coastal climate of Savoy produces Pinot Noirs that showcase a beautiful concentration of dark, elegant fruit.

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: 69% new, 31% 1yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.54

TA: 0.57g/100mL

Alc: 13.6% Released 2025

