

2023 Vista Verde Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

The nose is immediately recognizable as something different as the Vista Verde Vineyard is the only site we source from that is planted on limestone. Aromas of plum and berry abound and are complexed with hints of flinty minerals. Wood spices and citrus add further complexity and layers. Similarly on the palate the flavors showcase a chalky, mineral impression with berry fruits interlaced. Refined and smooth tannins make this a unique wine reminiscent of the limestone driven wines of Burgundy.

THE VINEYARD

Vista Verde Vineyard is located a couple of miles southeast of Hollister, California, near the small town of Tres Pinos in San Benito County. The heavy limestone vineyard is separated into blocks that include clones such as Calera, Canada, and Swan.

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: 59% new, 41% 1yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.46

TA: 0.57g/100mL

Alc: 13.7% Released 2025

