

2023 Weir Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Known to require time in the bottle to fully blossom, Weir's 2023 vintage is already showing signs of greatness. Delightfully aromatic and reminiscent of grenadine and strawberry, the wine highlights structure with a mineral driven finish while maintaining a juicy and refreshing palate. A recent retrospective tasting of Weir at a Masterclass at the Williams Selyem Estate highlighted how gracefully the wine ages. Owing to the rocky terrain, the tannins, while refined and polished, are substantial and this wine benefits from cellaring.

THE VINEYARDS

The Weir Vineyard is located near Yorkville in Mendocino County. Fifteen acres are planted on a south-facing slope of a steep old sheep ranch. The elevation is just under 1,000 feet and the climate is classic warm days and cool nights. The Weir Vineyard is planted to Romanee-Conti, Wadenswil 2-A, Pommard, and Rochioli clones. The vines are cane pruned with vertical shoot positioning, and a plant density of 1,000 vines per acre.

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: 55% new, 45% 1yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.43

TA: 0.64g/100mL

Alc: 14.1% Released 2025

