2023 RIDGECREST ESTATE PINOT NOIR
RIDGECREST VINEYARDS | RIBBON RIDGE AVA
WILLAMETTE VALLEY | OREGON

TECHNICAL DATA

AbV - 13.8% | **TA** - 5.8 g/L | **pH** - 3.61
AGING - 10 months 18% new, 36% 1-yr, 46% neutral French oak | 13% whole cluster fermentation
CLONES - 55% Pommard/Wädenswil, 11% Dijon 667/777, 34% Pommard/Dijon
VINES - 55% Original-own-rooted, 45% 21-yr-old Wind Ridge
PRODUCTION - 408 cases | **SRP** - $60
RELEASE - September 2025 | **ENJOY** - Now-2034 & beyond

93 - VINOUS | 91 - JAMES SUCKLING

Ridgecrest Vineyards is dry-farmed sustainably according to LIVE (Low Input Viticulture & Enology) standards.
Established - 1980 | Planted - 1982 - current

Elevation - 480 - 690ft | Acreage - 120 total | 41 planted

Of those planted acres, almost 25 are Pinot Noir, including Pommard (52%), Wadenswil (16%) and Dijon Clones 115 (10%), 667 (11%) & 777 (11%). The earliest plantings, own-rooted vines planted in 1982

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The 2023 Ridgecrest Estate Pinot noir is the epitome of classic Ribbon Ridge fruit, mineral, and spice, all singing together from deep dry-farmed roots. Ridgecrest hits the more savory and earthy notes, when compared to it's Wind Ridge Block sibling, and we find loads of powdered cocoa, wet slate, cigar box, chai tea, dusty blackberry, and baking spice on the nose. All these wonderful warm aromas translate into a rich, opulent palate, accentuated by firm tannins, and a dark berry cobbler/baking spice finish. The package is parceled together with cedar accents, and finishes long, tight, and ready to age. – *Wynne*

VINTAGE NOTES

2023: Return to Normal: Average Becomes winning at dinner

We've had several unusual vintages recently, e.g., 2022 (hard freeze), 2021 (hot, hot hot) and 2020 (wildfire smoke). 2023 pleasantly showed us a recent, relative normalcy, albeit warm.

Only two harvests in the last ten have begun earlier, 2023 starting September 11, a full 30 days earlier than our average the first 15 vintages this century.

Vineyard vigor, growth and ripening were strong in this Summer, with only 2015 having more over-80F days and only 2019 having more rainfall. Cropload yields were slightly smaller by 15% than the all-varietal 2.52 ton-per-acre 5-year average, with disease pressure very low except for a couple late-held varieties and general quality very good to exceptional—and that we'd like to see become normal. - *Harry*

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