2023 RR Pinot Noir, Estate Reserve

Ridgecrest Vineyards | Ribbon Ridge AVA | Willamette Valley | Oregon

TECHNICAL DATA

AbV - 13.5% | **TA** - 5.9 g/L | **pH** - 3.46

AGING - 11 months 57% new, 36% 1-yr, 7% neutral French oak + 5 months 100% neutral French oak | 30% whole cluster fermentation

CLONES - 43% Pommard, 43% Pommard/Wädenswil, 7% Dijon 667/777, 7% Pommard/Dijon 115

VINES - 86% 41-yr-old own-rooted, 14% 20-yr-old

PRODUCTION - 345 cases | **SRP** - $90

RELEASE - September 2025 | **ENJOY** - Now-2034 & beyond

94 - VINOUS

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.

LIVE CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The 2023 Estate Reserve Pinot noir is comprised of a selection of our best barrels from the vintage, with a focus on the old vine portion of our estate. This wine shows restrained fruits, ranging from dried black cherries and berry compote, and is complemented by earthy baked goods such as chocolate zucchini bread and graham cracker. There is a warm spice entry to the palate, with round supple edges, impeccable balance, and mouth-coating layers of berry, dried hay, dark chocolate, and dried orange peel. This is a quiet stunner and will build more on it's subdued fruit, warm earthy mineral-driven spice, and rich silky length over the years to come. – *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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