

CARMEL, CALITORNIA

2023 WHOLE CLUSTER PINOT NOIR

Monterey County AVA

The 2023 vintage in Monterey County experienced a significant delay caused by a very cool, wet spring that delayed budbreak by several weeks. The entire vintage continued to experience a later than normal growing season, with cool weather through the summer and early fall. Once harvest began, almost 3 weeks later than normal, it was crazy time. The window to pick fruit was severely compressed to less than 30 days. We had interns cleaning like we were ready to do surgery in the winery, but once it started, the days were long and chaotic. Thank goodness for beer and barbeque, because we were doing 15 hour days for nearly 3 weeks straight. The late harvest did give the fruit great hang-time to develop flavors and complexity, so we decided to highlight our estate vineyards in Monterey instead of using the SLH fruit that we purchased in 2022. The quality of the 2023 vintage is really exceptional.

The wine is lively and fresh upon release, with red fruit notes of strawberries, fresh cherries, and plums. The savory richness from the whole cluster fermentation adds dried herb and fresh grass and forest flavors. As the wine has aged, there is already a gorgeous integration of these flavors as they evolve into deeper, darker notes of tobacco leaves and tea.

Alc. by Vol.: 13.3%

pH: 3.8

TA: 5.8 g/L

not yet rated

Top 25 Californian Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir - VIVINO

(previous vintage)

