

WAYFARER

2023 PINOT NOIR 'GOLDEN MEAN'

TASTING NOTES | An electric ruby in the glass, The 2023 Pinot Noir 'Golden Mean' displays lifted notes of black raspberry, crushed violets, sage, blood orange peel, dried thyme and a touch of forest floor. The wine opens with fresh, bright red fruit and supple acidity, giving way to a darker fruit character framed with finely textured tannin. It culminates in a lengthy, luxurious textural finish.

VINTAGE NOTES | Moderate and extended vintages like we experienced in 2023 are ideal for producing classically styled wines with great aging potential. The 2023 vintage began with a cool and wet spring, delaying budbreak weeks later than usual. A mild May and June extended the bloom period nearly three weeks, further delaying an already late vintage. July and August brought warmth and sunshine with above average temperatures driving berry development and ripening, before transitioning into cooler weather in September. Harvest began on September 25th and carried well into October, ending on the 16th, our latest harvest on record. The temperate yet sunny days post-veraison created beautiful flavor and tannin development while retaining freshness and compelling savory notes. The 2023 Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays shine with finesse and quiet power, truly nuanced, multi-dimensional wines.

WINEMAKING NOTES | Each block was picked by hand at night, and firm, cool clusters were delivered to the winery before sunrise. We sorted the clusters by hand and reserved 15% of the Pommard for whole-cluster fermentation. The remainder of the fruit was destemmed before we transferred it into stainless steel tanks for seven to nine days of cold maceration. Fermentation was carried out by native yeast, and we punched the cap down by hand, with the frequency and technique determined by tasting each tank daily. The free run wine aged in 228L French oak barrels, 62% new, for 15 months prior to bottling.

ABOUT | Golden Mean is a philosophical term that explores the harmonious middle between two opposite ideals. A seamless juxtaposition of two distinctive clonal selections, Swan and Pommard, Swan's layered aromatics and ethereal character meld with the sublime texture and power of Pommard.

ACCLAIM | "The 2023 Golden Mean Pinot Noir is fabulous. Bright and nuanced, with terrific energy, the 2023 is sublime. Crushed flowers, red/purplish fruit, orange peel, and a kiss of French oak all grace this restrained, beautifully elegant Pinot. This is such a classy wine, the purity of fruit is sublime." 96 Points, Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, January 2025

ORIGIN	Wayfarer Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview
BLOCKS	5, 20, 26A
CLONES	Pommard, Swan
PRUNING	Double guyot
VINE YIELD	2.4 lbs/vine
HARVESTED	September 25 - October 4, 2023
BOTTLED	December 18, 2024
ALCOHOL	14.1%
pH	3.57
TA	5.6 g/L
PRODUCTION	135 cases
WINEMAKER	Todd Kohn