

WAYFARER

2023 PINOT NOIR 'PAIGE'S RIDGE'

TASTING NOTES | The 2023 Pinot Noir 'Paige's Ridge' is a concentrated, deep ruby hue in the glass. The darkest fruit profile of the Wayfarer Block Selections, Paige's Ridge expresses rich cherry, crushed raspberry, bruised rose petals, sweet clove and cacao nibs. A purity of fruit and savory spice notes are framed by refined tannins. Fresh acidity imbues lift and poise on the palate, creating a harmonious wine that develops with finesse and elegance.

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 21% for whole-cluster fermentation. The remainder of the fruit was destemmed before we transferred it into an oak cuve for six 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, 67% new, for 15 months prior to bottling.

ABOUT | Paige's Ridge is composed of the Pinot Noir clone Dijon 667, known for its dense clusters, small berries and thick skins, and is planted along a steep east-facing ridgeline. It displays the darkest fruit profile and greatest opulence of our bottlings with polish and verve.

ACCLAIM | "The 2023 Pinot Noir Paige's Ridge is a powerful yet reticent wine. This is the only Pinot in the range fermented in wood. In 2023, Paige's has a bit of stem inclusion as well. Vertical and explosive, with tons of energy, the 2023 dazzles from the start. Bright red-toned fruit, mint, white pepper, sage, and build into the intensely saline finish. Give this a few years to soften, as the tannins are quite formidable at this stage. This is a superb showing from Wayfarer." 97 Points, Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, January 2025

ORIGIN	Wayfarer Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview
BLOCK	8
CLONE	Dijon 667
PRUNING	Double guyot
VINE YIELD	2.7 lbs/vine
HARVESTED	October 3, 2023
BOTTLED	December 18, 2024
ALCOHOL	14.4%
pH	3.59
TA	5.6 g/L
PRODUCTION	70 cases
WINEMAKER	Todd Kohn