



2023 PINOT NOIR RIDDLE VINEYARD SONOMA COAST



THE VINEYARD Riddle Vineyard is located in the Green Valley region within the Sonoma Coast AVA, near the town of Occidental. Situated high upon a ridge top with a gentle south facing slope, the vineyard overlooks many of the iconic vineyards of the region. Mornings tend to be foggy, yet the fog burns off early, allowing the vines to be drenched in warm sun the rest of the day. Planted in 2008 at a high density with 3.5' x 6' spacing on exceptional Goldridge soils, the vine roots stretch deep in the soils looking for nutrients and water. This provides for deep, complex flavors. Riddle is planted to a mixture of Pinot noir clones 115, Pommard and a distinctive Mt. Eden clone, which was taken as original bud wood from a prominent vineyard planted along California's Central Coast.

WINEMAKER NOTES In 2023, plentiful winter rains took Sonoma out of a drought. A cool summer allowed the vines to ripen at an even pace and the weather stayed moderate during the growing season with periodic light rains. Harvesting started three weeks later than normal and Pinot Noir yields were above average. The cooler weather resulted in fresh natural acidity and firmer tannins, both good for cellaring. Grape phenolics ripened at lower sugar levels and the resulting 2023 Pinot Noirs are more "Burgundian" in nature. The cool weather in 2023 allowed for longer hang times at Riddle than what we typically experience. In 2023, Mt Eden clone again provided a rich core of bramble berry flavors and ample structure. Clone 115 offered deep flavors and silky texture. The Pommard block added earthy notes and fresh acidity to balance out the blend.

FERMENTATION & BOTTLING

100% destemmed Pinot Noir
Open-top fermentation
Native yeast
50% new French oak
Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered
Bottled August 2024

FINISHED WINE DETAILS

Alcohol: 14.4%
pH: 3.53
TA: 5.7 g/L
Release date: Summer 2025
Retail price: \$69
450 cases produced
AVA: Sonoma Coast

TASTING SALON

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ABOUT THE WINERY Based in the town of Sonoma, Sojourn Cellars is a highly acclaimed winery specializing in the production of artisan Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Cabernet Sauvignon wines. We source fruit from celebrated vineyards in both Sonoma and Napa Counties, and we help direct farming operations to assure that our grapes are produced using world-class growing techniques. We have consistently produced high-quality wines with a hands-off natural winemaking style that showcases the character and personality of individual vineyards.

Erich Bradley
Director of Winemaking

Randy Bennett
Winemaker

Rob Sanford
Assistant Winemaker