



# CARLTON CELLARS

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## 2023 PINOT NOIR - ROADS END RESERVE - LIBRA VINEYARD

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### TECHNICAL NOTES:

AVA: Yamhill-Carlton District  
Harvest: September 12th-19th 2023  
Cooperage: French oak Barrique (20% new)  
Clonal mix: Pommard (70%), 115 (20%) 777 (10%)  
pH: 3.88  
Bottled: August 2024  
Aging: Drink now through 2036

### TASTING NOTES:

A veritable ensemble of floral aromas (rose, violets, even marigold) stretch comfortably among notes of sarsaparilla, cherry and black plum while more subtle membrillo and mocha idle on the edges. Concentrated flavors of black raspberry and cherry are pleasantly punctuated with cola spice and nuances of sweet licorice root & maple. Full and silky, the mouthfeel goes on to offer a finish that is soft and gently waning.

### VINTAGE TRENDS:

A cold if somewhat wet Spring saw a sleepy start to the growing season with Budbreak being behind the benchmark average by several weeks. While this colder-than-average Spring lasted through April, temperatures in the month of May were well above average, though without any extremes. The time between Bud Break and Bloom was relatively compressed and record-short in many sites across the region. Above average temperatures continued through June and into July, advancing Veraison to an earlier-than-average time scale. In mid-August we experienced some familiar, but plant stressing triple-digit temperatures, effectively checking the vines' rate of ripening.

What started off looking like another cool/late vintage turned out to be a relatively easy growing season for most varieties. While there were fewer temperature extremes compared to the previous two years, the cumulative Growing Degree Days (GDD) for 2023 tracked very closely with 2021 - a record high year for GDD.

The shiny spot on this vintage will likely be the concentration of flavors and aromas due to smaller berries - a silver lining on a relatively small cloud.

120 CASES PRODUCED

13.5% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

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