



# CARLTON CELLARS

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## 2023 PINOT NOIR - ESTATE - LIBRA VINEYARD

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### TECHNICAL NOTES:

AVA: Yamhill-Carlton District

Harvest: September 12th-19th, 2023

Cooperage: French oak Barrique (8% new)

Clonal Mix: Pommard (57%), 777 (29%), 115 (14%)

pH: 3.86

Bottled: August 2024

Aging: Drink now through 2034

### TASTING NOTES:

Dense notes of brown sugar, pipe tobacco and blackberry aromas set the tone, indicating the depth of this vintage. Brighter aromas of red cherry & raspberry offer a counter point to the initial darker notes, and serve to frame floral and stoney nuances of rose & wet gravel. Big dense flavors of black cherry and raspberry are followed by impressions of fresh fig, warm spice and black tea. The entry is soft and rich with a weighty mid-palate and juicy lingering finish.

### 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 Budbreak and Bloom was relatively compressed and record-short in many sites across the region. Above average temperatures continued though 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 of this vintage will likely be the concentration of flavors and aromas due to smaller berries - a silver lining on a relatively small cloud.

300 CASES PRODUCED

13.4% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

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