

2023 Bien Nacido Vineyard Pinot Noir

Harvest date: 9-23-23

Fermentation: 25% whole cluster, 75% destemmed

Aging: 14 months in 100% neutral French oak

Bottling date: 12-17-24, 144 cases produced

Alcohol: 14.4%

The 2023 Sandler Bien Nacido Pinot Noir comes from a cooler and later than normal vintage. The Santa Maria Valley is already considered a cool appellation, but 2023 saw the vines get off to a very late start since the winter rains and low temperatures delayed budbreak through the appellation. Similar to the '22 version in that it was fermented with 25% whole clusters, the '23 has slightly more tannin and higher acidity. It is also 100% clone 2A, Wadenswil, whereas the '22 was mixed with Pommard. This should drink well through at least 2035.

