



California Pinot Noir

The 2023 Vintage

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Boom. That's the sound of the mic drop capping the 2023 vintage for Pinot Noir. Run, don't walk to stock up on these wines. They're that good.

2023 was the latest harvest we've had since the late 1990s, "says Bibinana Gonzalez Rave. "But I wasn't that nervous with 2023. 2011 was more nerve-racking because it had rained throughout the season, but it taught us how to adjust. When you have slow ripening, you adjust in the vineyard to balance the crop and make sure you get phenolic, rightness and maintain aroma. density of canopy, how many shoots you have vine, etceter. It means you might have to go back and make another pass. It's expensive, in

2023 was the most expensive vintage I've ever made, but if you're paying attention and making those adjustments along the way, you'll be OK." Gonzalez nailed the vintage with her Cattleya Pinot Noir West Sonoma Coast The Goddess 2023 (95, \$125) which drips with succulent Mulberry and boysenberry preserves laced with anise, violet, and Iris hints. This is a wine for fans of the high gloss style, sporting flashy, anise-and fruit cake-accented toast on the finish, but with the fruit driving through undaunted.



2023 CATTLEYA
THE GODDESS
West Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir

This is dripping with notes of succulent mulberry and boysenberry preserves that are liberally laced with anise, violet and iris accents. Flashy anise- and fruitcake-accented toast coats the finish, but the fruit drives through undaunted. For fans of the high-gloss style. Drink now through 2035. 117 cases made.

95
POINTS

2023 CATTLEYA
BELLY OF THE WHALE
Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir

A frankly ripe, steeped style, with dark cherry, boysenberry and blackberry pâte de fruit notes spilling through, laced with bramble, singed anise and apple wood along the way. Offers the underlying energy to support it all; this is for the hedonist crowd. Best from 2026 through 2033. 112 cases made.

94
POINTS



2023 CATTLEYA
PINOT NOIR
Sonoma Coast

A not-shy version, with a plump core of dark mulberry and blackberry preserves coated with licorice snap and backed by a briar accent on the toasty finish. Offers the vintage's underlying succulence for balance, but this is for fans of the fruit-bomb style only. Drink now through 2029. 325 cases made.

92
POINTS