



2023 PROPRIETARY RED NAPA VALLEY

COMPOSITION	91% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc, 1.5% Malbec, 1.5% Petit Verdot
VINEYARDS	62% Upper Range, 16% Stagecoach, 8% Vangone, 8% Rogers Vineyard, 4% Waters Ranch, 2% Round Pond
HARVESTED	October 7 - 30, 2023
BARREL REGIMEN	17 months in 84% new Taransaud barrels
BOTTLED	May 2025
ALCOHOL	14.9%
WINEMAKER	Katie Vogt
RELEASE DATE	September 2026

WINEMAKER IMPRESSIONS

The 2023 Pahlmeyer Proprietary Red opens with a rush of layered aromatics: deep herbal notes with lilac and lavender leading to a core of plum and dark cherry. Sagebrush and a fine thread of graphite minerality lend savory depth, a hallmark of the wine's high-elevation mountain fruit. The palate reveals the paradox of the vintage: elegant and restrained on entry, then unfolding with building power and remarkable intensity. Fine, compact tannins frame dark concentrated fruit bolstered by a beam of fresh acidity. The long finish echoes with toasty spice and a dusty cocoa. Tightly wound in its youth, the 2023 promises exceptional evolution over the next two decades. – Katie Vogt, Winemaker

WINEMAKING

Across the even-paced 2023 harvest, individual blocks of our high-elevation mountain vineyards were hand-harvested at night, each picked at optimal ripeness. The extended, temperate season afforded unhurried hang time, allowing each site to express distinct character in its purest form. At the winery, the fruit was hand and optical-sorted before being gravity-fed to tank, where each lot was fermented separately with gentle extraction tailored to preserve aromatics and structure. Dozens of individual lots were aged seventeen months in 84% new, heavily toasted Taransaud French oak. The finest Cabernet Sauvignon of the vintage is the heart of this wine, anchored by the savory, classic mountain character of Upper Range vineyard. It was assembled from the many unique lots and completed with the addition of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec, and Petit Verdot. The final blend was bottled unfinned and unfiltered in May 2025, enjoying additional bottle age before release.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2023 vintage was a cool growing season that required patience, often a point of tension when farming red varieties at elevation. But our mountain sites offer clear advantages: low crop load, vineyards above the fog line, and extended morning sunlight that yields the qualities of a riper vintage even in a cooler year like 2023. Without heat spikes to compress the season, we extended hang time across all our mountain vineyards, allowing each site's distinct character to emerge in its purest form. Sitting down at the blending table, it felt as though all these vivid personalities had emerged fully formed. This is one of the prettiest vintages of Pahlmeyer I've tasted in the last fifteen years, revealing what these ranches are capable of in their best year, setting a new benchmark for what we strive to achieve. – KV

98 Points "A pure powerhouse... super concentrated, deep, and primal."
– Jim Gordon, JamesSuckling.com Executive Editor