

# melville

## 2023 Estate Pinot Noir - Terraces

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### Description

The Terraces block sits on a sloped and terraced hillside, with each individual row receiving a direct hit from the cold Pacific Ocean wind. Wrapping around Block M in a “peninsula” shape, the Terraces face varying directions - north, northwest, and due west – cascading down a steep terrain made of clay-rich loam with chunky calcareous shale soil. These facets create several different sun exposures, limited water holding capacity, and when combined with the freezing cold wind, lead to a naturally “devigorized” environment producing intense fruit. Planted in 1997 by Brent Melville and the vineyard crew, this small lot of only 4.9 acres is an interesting combination of two old-school California selections of Mt. Eden and Joseph Swan, plus three Dijon clones (115, 667 and 777). 60% whole cluster.

### Highlights

**Varietal:** 100% Pinot Noir  
**Cases Produced:** 576  
**Soil Type:** Clay-rich loam and calcareous shale  
**Vine age:** 27 years old  
**Clones:** Swan, Mount Eden, 115, 667 and 777  
**Fermentation:** 60% whole-cluster  
**Élevage:** Aged in neutral barrel (15+ year old French oak) for 18 months  
**Bottling date:** December 6, 2023  
**Release date + price:** February 2025, \$78

### Tasting Notes

Aromas of raspberries, potpourri, Indian spices, incense and red plums. Its full-bodied structure and vibrant acidity are reminiscent of a high quality Chambolle-Musigny from the 2022 vintage. Think beautiful high-toned aromas with graceful power on the palate. Pair this wine with slow smoked fatty salmon with reduced raspberry sauce.

### Scores

Ratings pending.

Previous vintage scores:  
2022: 96 points  
2021: 95 points  
2020: 95+ points

### Technical Details

**Alcohol:** 13.1%  
**pH:** 3.66  
**VA:** 0.6 g/L  
**Glucose + fructose:** 0.2 g/L  
**TA:** 6.2 g/L