

Littorai,

`Les Larmes` Anderson Valley Pinot Noir 2023
Sonoma County, California, USA

Littorai



PRODUCER

Husband and wife team Ted and Heidi Lemon are behind this family-run winery, established in 1993. Ted began his career in Burgundy and has worked for some of the region's top estates including Domaine Guy Roulot in Meursault where he was winemaker and vineyard manager, the first American to ever hold such a position in Burgundy! Heidi has similarly worked for some of California's top producers including Robert Long Vineyards and Stag's Leap Wine Cellars. Ted and Heidi's mission with Littorai was to find the best spot to grow Pinot Noir and Chardonnay along the littoral (coastal) zones of the U.S.A. They searched the west coast before finally finding their top spot in the 'true' north of California - the coastal mountains of Sonoma and Mendocino Counties. All the vineyards have been farmed biodynamically since 2001 and there is minimal intervention in the winemaking.

VINEYARDS

Les Larmes Anderson Valley regional blend is harvested from a number of exceptional sites worthy of vineyard designation in their own right. 27% of the final blend come from lots: Savoy, Cerise, One Acre, Roman and Wendling Vineyards. 32% is press wine from these same sources. 18% is from a separate block at Wendling which is dedicated to this bottling and 23% comes from our Deer Meadows estate vineyard in the hills above Boonville where the One Acre parcel lies. All the sites are farmed using organic and biodynamic methods.

VINTAGE

The 2023 vintage is often described as a vintage like no other. The cycle was far behind the usual schedule, with almost double the amount of typical rain falling between December to March. Bud break was extremely late in April, with veraison following in August. A few days of high temperatures were welcomed in September which allowed the grapes to finish ripening perfectly. Despite these challenges throughout the year, the resulting harvest is of excellent quality.

VINIFICATION

The organically produced grapes were fermented at controlled temperatures before being matured in French Oak for 11 months, 25% of which was new. The wine then spent five months in stainless steel before bottling without fining or filtration.

TASTING NOTES

The 2023 Les Larmes bottling shows aromas of ripe strawberry and raspberry with lovely savory and spice tones, hints of cola and a gravelly quality. On the palate it displays beautiful balance with gentle tannins, charming mid palate richness and gentle acidity which slowly builds leaving a delightful impression of freshness. There is great persistence and concentration on the finish.

Grape Varieties	100% Pinot Noir
Winemaker	Ted Lemon
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	13%
Residual Sugar	0.1g/L
Acidity	5.3g/L
Wine pH	3.69
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Practising Biodynamic, Practising Organic, Vegan