

Crystallum

Crystallum Cuvée Cinema Pinot Noir 2023 is a captivating single-vineyard expression , embodying the elegance and complexity of South Africa's Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge. With its vibrant fruit and refined structure, it is a true standout.

## Cuvée Cinema Pinot Noir 2023

Walker Bay, South Africa

### Region and Vineyards

Cuvée Cinema is sourced from a **single vineyard** in the **Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge**, a sub-region of Walker Bay on South Africa's Cape South Coast. Situated at an altitude of **300 meters**, the vineyard enjoys a **cool southeast-facing slope**, moderated by coastal breezes from Walker Bay. These conditions ensure slower ripening, preserving freshness and enhancing complexity.

The vineyard is planted with **Dijon clones** at high density on **clay and shale soils**, which naturally limit vine vigor and reduce yields, allowing for optimal flavor concentration. The **2023 vintage** experienced a challenging growing season, with a dry and warm start followed by cool, wet weather in mid-December. Sporadic rainfall in February had minimal impact, and the resulting wines are **focused and precise, with a riper fruit profile** compared to previous vintages.

#### Winemaking

Cuvée Cinema 2023 was fermented in **stainless steel tanks** using only **indigenous yeasts**, reflecting Crystallum's commitment to natural winemaking. **60% of the fruit was left as whole clusters**, enhancing structure and aromatic complexity.

The wine was then aged for **11 months in 228-liter old French oak barrels**, reducing the influence of new oak to allow the purity of the fruit to shine. This meticulous vinification process preserves the wine's vibrant character while adding depth and finesse.

## **Tasting Notes**

- Color: Bright ruby red with a luminous clarity.
- **Aroma**: Pronounced notes of brambles, black cherry, and spices, with hints of aniseed and a savory edge.
- Palate: Elegant tension and phenolic grip lead to plush red fruit flavors, including wild strawberries and pomegranate, complemented by savory undertones of tomato leaf. The spicier vintage finishes with a refreshing salinity.

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Alcohol:14,00 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir





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## Did you know?

The name **Cuvée Cinema** is inspired by the single vineyard's proximity to a historic open-air cinema in the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley, connecting the wine to the region's cultural and natural heritage.

### Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Duck breast with cherry reduction**: The wine's bramble and cherry notes complement the rich flavors of duck and the tangy sweetness of the sauce.
- **Mushroom and thyme tart**: The savory undertones and elegant structure balance the earthy flavors of the mushrooms.
- **Seared tuna with sesame and soy glaze**: The wine's saline finish and red fruit vibrancy pair beautifully with the umami richness of the tuna.
- Aged Gruyère cheese: The wine's acidity and spice accentuate the nutty, creamy character of the cheese.



#### Robert Parker (RP): 95 Points (2023)

Opening to a darker, red-fruited nose, the 2022 Cuvee Cinema Pinot Noir leaps out of the glass with notes of potpourri and black tea with hints of oak spice. Medium-bodied, the palate offers a firm-gripping tannic edge and bright acidity that will either need time or food; I suspect both. It's still a baby and super tight, so be patient, give it time and start enjoying it in 2025. Just over 5,500 bottles were filled after resting for about a year in all French oak, 25% new. I can see where this is headed, and it's an absolute crusher of a bottle. Your patience will be rewarded.



