

Monte Christo Winery Rosé 2023, Central Otago

Varietal fruity, lifted, fresh and lively bouquet filled with scents of raspberry and yellow plums, some sweet rose highlights and a touch of minerality. Silk textures touch the palate first with medium+ acidity and a fine tannin texture, then flavours of red berries and plums reflect the bouquet. Balanced, refreshing and salivating in a ready to drink expression from 2024 through 2027.

92+ Points

Monte Christo Winery Pinot Gris 2023, Central Otago

Varietal, lifted and enticing bouquet filled with scents of pears and flowers, fine lees textures and apples. A course silk texture touches the palate first then acidity layers in tautness, youth and texture. Flavours from the bouquet of green pears and apple, a touch of quince and citrus add breath and some complexity. Some super fine tannins layer in a very fine powdery texture. Balanced, well made and ready to drink from day of purchase through 2026.

93 Points

Monte Christo Winery Chardonnay 2022, Central Otago

Bright, youthful, fresh and varietal with scents of white peach and red apple layered with complexities from barrel ageing and whispers of spice. Fresh, ripe and pure. Crisp and dry on the palate with fresh fruit flavours that reflect the bouquet, the wild ferment strategy shows-off a touch of gun-flint enhancing the mineral qualities and suggesting a lovely style quality (I hope this is kept in future vintages). Well made, dry and tasty. Best drinking from 2024 through 2029.

93+ Points

Monte Christo Winery Pinot Noir 2022, Central Otago

Ripe, fruity and varietal with an enticing bouquet of red berries and mineral soil, layers of new wood and baking spices from some new-ish oak use, there's a light toasty quality as well. Youthful and engaging overall. A dry wine with barrel spices and core of varietal fruits touch the palate all at once. Finesse from tannins and textures of fine grain and acidity add mouthfeel and a youthful texture. Still taut needing some settling time in cellar with best drinking likely from 2027 through 2035+.

93+ Points

Monte Christo Winery Pinot Noir 2022, Alexandra, Central Otago

Varietal, bright and pure fruited bouquet with Alexandra scents of sweet raspberry and plums, flowers and complexities from French oak with baking spices. Taut and youthful with a squeeze of texture from tannins and backbone of acidity then flavours of red berries and plums mirror the bouquet. The tannins deliver a lovely texture and squeeze and acidity carries the fruit and gentle dried herb quality through the palate. The oak is mostly in the background delivering structure and breadth. Well made with best drinking likely from 2026 through 2034+.

94 Points

Monte Christo Winery Pinot Noir 2022, Bannockburn, Central Otago

Complex, youthful and layered bouquet with scents of place and sit emerging first, then fruit and winemaking. Aromas of stony clay soils, dried herbs of thyme and sage then red berry fruits and ripe plum follow. The use of new wood adds a power shift and baking spice layers with a light smoky quality. All the elements in the bouquet are revealed again after the tautness and squeeze of acidity and tannins begin to dissolve on the palate. Firm chalky textured tannins and a backbone of acidity then core fruit flavours of plum, cherry and dried raspberry show. A wine for the cellar with best drinking likely from 2028 through 2038.

95 Points

CENTRAL Pinot Noir 2022, Central Otago

Produced and bottled by Monte Christo Winery - this wine has a bouquet of plums and dark cherry, some bramble and dried herb scents with a dark spice and touch of wood smoke highlights. Taut and dry as the wine touches the palate with flavours of plums and red berries then soil and wood. There's a salivating dryness on the palate direct the drink to enjoy this wine with food. Medium+ acid line, varietal and ready to drink from late 2024 through 2029.

91 Points