

BOUCHARD FINLAYSON

GALPIN PEAK PINOT NOIR 2021

Although Pinot Noir is unique in that it possesses both delicacy and richness, it is often quoted as exhibiting little varietal character, rather expressing the region's terroir. Hence, it carries the crown of being the most terroir-expressive of all grape varieties. It is in only a few locations in the world that a certain combination of soil and climate allows this elusive grape to be expressed to its fullest potential. The Hemel-en-Aarde Valley is one of those places.

VINTAGE

It's been remarked before how the weather, during recent odd vintages, seems to behave to the benefit of local vintners. 2021 followed this pattern of 2019, 2017 and 2015. Yields varied significantly between cultivars and apart from a big rain event on 14 March, dry and cool conditions prevailed during picking. Phenolic ripeness outperformed sugar accumulation in the berries, resulting in juices with low potential alcohol and balanced natural acidities.

VINIFICATION

Eight Estate vineyards, ranging in age from ten to thirty years, contribute to this expression of Pinot Noir. Various clonal material also plays a role, but the classic Dijon 113, 115, 667 and 777 are predominant. Each vineyard plot is vinified separately, with emphasis placed on accentuating its distinctive characteristics. Blended after 11months maturation in French oak, 30% of which were new.

Bottled, following 4 months elevage, in May 2022.

TASTING NOTES

Fragrant and seductive red cherry perfume underpins an iron-rich mineral edge. Gently extracted fine tannins enrobe a delicate, yet vibrant structure. It is elegant and accessible, with refined oak and a layered, rewarding finish. Best from 2023 through 2030.

FOOD PAIRING

A wine of substance - generously structured for the long haul. Immediately expressive succulent plum, clove and nutmeg. Well defined and concentrated black olive tapenade and cranberry tart flavours, all elegantly packaged around an everpresent kelp-like tannin. Velvety smooth finish.



VARIETAL

100% Pinot Noir

WINE OF ORIGIN

Estate Wine Hemel-en-Aarde Valley

PRODUCTION

1600 x 12 bottle cases

ANALYSIS

Alcohol: 13.19 vol% Total Acidity: $5.5 \, g/l$ Residual Sugar: $2.2 \, g/l$ pH: 3.47 Volatile Acidity: $0.69 \, g/l$ Total So2: 83 mg/l Allergens: Sulphites