



William Downie

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William Downie 2021 Gippsland Pinot Noir

Winemaker: William Downie

Grape(s): Pinot Noir

GI: Gippsland

Site: Berrys Creek Vineyard in South Gippsland

Vintage notes: 2021 was, for the most part, a very good growing season in Gippsland. January and February were mild with just enough rain to keep the vines green and lush. As a result fruit was harvested with the highest level of maturity seen since 2018.

Vineyard notes: Berrys Creek Vineyard is planted at 6500 vines/ha on red volcanic soil at 150m elevation. It was planted by the Matthews family in 1998. Their leased vineyards are also all planted on red volcanic soil and range in elevation from 150m to 300m. The vines are between 20 and 40 years old and are, as of July 2020, all certified organic. Yields are always less than 5t/ha. All of the sites, including Berrys Creek, are dry grown.

Winemaking: All of the fruit is hand sorted and then fully destemmed. Whole berries are transferred by gravity to both wooden and stainless steel open vats. Fermentation takes place without any additions, temperature control, punch downs or pump overs. The must was pressed after 30 days and then matured in 20% new Australian made French oak barriques. The wine was assembled and a small SO₂ addition made before bottling without fining or filtration in December 2020.

Closure: Diam 5 Origine

ABV: 13%

LEGEND tasting notes: An elegant and energetic ode to the complexity of Gippsland pinot noir. Nose is aromatic and floral: strawberry gum, wild acacia, brined plum, and fresh black cherry. The palate is filigreed, with a winning combination of detail and scope. Light oak spice knits together the fruit and herbal notes, expressing a complete and fully realized vision of this grape and region.

Label design: All art done by Reg Mombassa, a New Zealand-born, Australian-raised artist and musician

Production size: 100 dozen