

2019 Curly Flat Central Pinot Noir



About the Central...

As with our inaugural 2018 Central Pinot Noir, our 2019 has again been sourced from our oldest Pinot Noir vines that were planted in 1992. 100% MV6 clone Pinot Noir, this block represents what has been the structural heart of Curly Flat Pinot Noir since our first vintage in 1998. Northern facing and nestled upon a gentle slope that rises to the south, this block is a natural amphitheatre for the sun to interact with these maturing vines that are bedded in geologically young soils (2 million years) consisting of rare volcanic, of which have only known to have occurred in Australia throughout small parts of our region. The wines grown here consist of fine, detailed tannin and expresses both aromatically and rich in both fruit and fragrance.

Vintage 2019

After a cooler spring, the summer months delivered moderate to warm temperatures of an average of 28 degrees. Veraison occurred in January, past the heat peak of summer and slow ripening ensued without compromise to length or varietal detail. Outside of an above average flourish in November, the rainfall of the season overall was low with the lead up to harvest being our driest on record with only 41mm received between December and April. The combination of warm days, cool nights and very low rainfall manifested in a more powerfully structured yet fragrant Pinot Noir that serves to showcase the quality of tannin that is grown in our vineyards.

From the winery

Our 2019 Central Pinot Noir consists of two parcels from our old vines. Each were indigenously fermented with a higher percentage of whole bunches to compliment the existing tannin while accentuating red fruited aromatics in contrast with darker fruits and more savoury expression inherent with this site. Pressed after 23 days on skins the wines then rested in barrel for 16 months and ultimately consists of 40% whole bunch and 27% new oak and was bottled without filtration.

Reviews

"It's from the estate's 1992 planting, aka its oldest vines. It was fermented wild before going into 27% new oak. This takes the tannin up another notch; I was bowled over by this, it's a terrific wine. Meaty, smoky, plum-shot, silken, cedar-laced. But bold with tannin. Muscular in a nuanced way. The 'standard' Curly Flat pinot noir grew on me over the hours; this one hit me with its quality immediately. You can see the grains in this and I mean that as a positive; it's like an LP, analog, grainy, its flavours told in grooves. Drink : 2022 - 2028+"

95 points, Campbell Mattinson, The Wine Front

"This wine, from Curly Flat's Central Block, is one of three 2019 releases and is made from the oldest vines on the property. It's quite a forceful young pinot, given its cool-climate origins. The colour is deep and the nose is still primary and unevolved, with kernelly cherry, violet, spice and undergrowthy aromas of admirable varietal purity. Oak is appropriately balanced. It's medium-bodied and restrained in flavour initially, with a rather tight frame and firm tannin backbone tending to dominate, but there's real fruit delicacy underneath that emerges in the glass, and tracks fragrantly through a long finish. It needs bottle age, but promises much for the future. (40% whole bunch). Drink 2021-2031"

95 points, Ralph Kyte-Powell, The Real Review

Clones: MV6 **Harvested:** 21st March, 2019 **Alc/Vol (%)**: 13 **TA (g/L)**: 5.6 **pH**: 3.63

Cellaring: Now - Ten years