

2020 Curly Flat Pinot Noir

From the vineyard

Compared to the warmer growing seasons of 2018 & 2019, 2020 walked a cooler path. Budburst commenced mid-September to the frosty welcome that can be part and parcel of our cool, continental climate. After a slightly warmer than usual October, November saw the return of much cooler weather for flowering and fruit set. These cooler conditions led to smaller than usual bunches being formed across the vineyard. Fruit set completed in a warmer than average December, that in hindsight stands as one of our warmest and driest on record. This warmth served as the last hurrah of substantial heat, with the remainder of the season receiving heat best described as gentle warmth. As temperatures decreased, rainfall began to increase with most months receiving above average moisture. With our usual great attention to detail in the vineyard, plus some great end game weather, a compact yet highly qualitative harvest was completed by the end of the first week of April.

From the winery

Our 2020 Estate Pinot Noir consists of eleven separate lots representing distinct aspects, clones and soils. Each of these parcels were handled with attention to vineyard details with the aim of maximising site expression. Indigenous yeasts connect all ferments but varying amounts of whole bunch, post ferment skin contact and individual oak handling were utilised respective to the lot characters themselves. Each of these parcels combine to form our most complex Pinot Noir, with fragrant spices and a red fruit lift that seamlessly merges with darker fruits and more savoury complexities. A myriad of vineyard based tannin entwines with gentle oak handling to accentuate a length of mineral clarity. After 14 months maturation our Estate blend consists of 12% whole bunch and 36% new oak and was bottled without filtration.



Reviews

"Deep, bright red/purple hue, with a dry spice, pepper and walnut bouquet, balsamic herbs too, savoury and bold, the varietal fruit still a touch suppressed, while the palate is intense and lively, deep and backed up by supportive but not assertive tannins. Black cherry emerged more the longer it was in the glass. A superb wine."

96 points, Huon Hooke, *The Real Review* (April 2022)

"The tannin structure of this wine and the overall reach through the finish is elite. It has ample flavour, in varietal terms, but structure is what this wine is all about. It mixes red cherry with satsuma plum, cedar wood with green-ish garden herbs, and while it has a bit of grunt it's not heavy; it trips along in its own certain way. Hold onto it; don't rush in; it's on its way to a lovely place." **95 points, Campbell Mattinson, *The Wine Front* (May 2022)**

"A vibrant and glossy red in the glass with red cherry and wild cherry contrasted by finely filimented spice and understated earth. The palate showcases an exceptional site with fruit moving from red to black cherry and brown baking spices melding with earth and the characteristic lines of acidity that set the Macedon Ranges apart. Fruit, savoury influences and the generous impact of oak provide a complex and lingering finish."

95 points, Patrick Eckel, www.winereviewer.com.au (May 2022)

"This Curly Flat Estate Pinot is a ripper. A blend of all estate fruit, it's a great experience to line up the [Central](#) and [Western](#) Pinots beside it to see how this Estate came to be. A blending masterpiece one could say... "Incredible aromas explode from the glass of this Estate Pinot. Think delicate earthiness, char, twiggy things and autumnal feels. Dark plums and dark cherries keep the beat pumping. There is some admirable density here too with a long tail of meatiness. Some firmish tannins calm over a couple of days of tasting and whisper its age-worthiness. Take the hint - it will live long. The balance, the presence, this is a classy Pinot. Go here."

95 points, Steve Leszczynski www.qwinereviews.com