



HONEY MOON VINEYARD

Honey Moon Vineyard Adelaide Hills Pinot Noir ~ Extra 2019

Single vineyard | pinot with power and elegance

A powerful pinot from a grand Adelaide Hills vintage, from the elevated slopes of Echunga (410–420m). The vineyard has a north- and east-facing aspect, with light brown alluvial loam over ironstone clay. It was planted in late 2003/early 2004 with 3 clones (777, 114, 115) and about 5 years later 2 further clones were added (MV6, GM18). The site's cool-climate profile – based on heat summation data – sits between the Côte Rôtie and Burgundy regions of France.

Grapes and winemaking

100% pinot noir from five clones: 777, 114, 115, MV6 and GM18. The 2018/2019 growing season was remarkably dry, and cool conditions during flowering and fruit set led to low yields in the Adelaide Hills. Fortunately, warm, dry conditions in summer and the mild dry autumn created ideal ripening conditions... allowing our vines to ripen a small but high-quality crop. The pinot showed outstanding levels of colour, perfume and flavour across all clones – which was very exciting. We hand-harvested on 6 March. Bunches were destemmed (with minimal crushing) into small open fermenters. Gentle hand plunging and moderate temperatures preserved fruit purity and freshness. After 9 days on skins, the wine was pressed off in our basket press, settled in tank, and then racked into French oak barriques (20% new). After 12 months in oak the wine was bottled in April 2020.

Tasting Notes

Mid ruby with a warm scarlet hue. Complex, intense and lively aromas of dark cherry, ripe plums, violets and exotic spices, underpinned by subtle French oak notes of cedar and citrus. The palate opens with sweet red berry fruits, layered with violets and spice. Fine drying tannins emerge mid-palate, framing the fruit and oak beautifully and leading to a long, flavoursome finish. This is the most intense pinot we have made to date. Delicious now, it has all the hallmarks of being a beautiful pinot for the long haul (say, 15 years plus). A great match for medium-weight dishes, from pasta through to light roasts.

Awards and Reviews

Silver Medal (93 points) Adelaide Hills Wine Show 2020. Bronze Medal – Royal Adelaide Wine Show 2021. **Gold Medal** Adelaide Hills Wine Show 2021. Finalist, Wine of Provenance, Class 22, Adelaide Hills Wine Show 2023 (vintages 2019, 2015 and 2007 were judged).