



LUNA

BLUE ROCK PINOT NOIR 2019



STATS

pH 3.7

TA 5.2 g/L

RS <1.0 g/L

Alc 13.5 %

Bottled Oct 2020

FOOD MATCH

Drink with
roasted game bird
and mushroom
sauce.

VINTAGE & VINE

Winter came late with August and September cold and wet. Jack Frost paid a visit with a catastrophic event occurring late spring resulting in heavy losses across the region. We were not spared, Eclipse vineyard was struck across the blocks closest to the terrace edge, losses estimated around 30%. High rainfall returned in November negatively impacting on the flowering stage, reducing crop levels significantly and making machinery work extremely difficult. To put it mildly; a highly challenging spring.

Summer was hot and relatively dry. Harvest was earlier than usual with perfect weather for picking. In the end excellent quality fruit was harvested albeit in small quantities.

WINERY

Hand harvested at Blue Rock Vineyard on the 22nd and 23rd of March. This vintage of Blue Rock Pinot Noir was sourced from Pipers Block (1986 plantings), Jims Block (1995 plantings) and Highfold Block C (1996 plantings).

All bunches were 100% de-stemmed directly into two and three ton open top fermenters. Every effort is made to preserve as much "whole berry" as possible. This, along with the use of cooling helps to ensure a slow onset of full fermentation allowing the native non-saccharomyces yeasts time to perform an initial ferment before the stronger, more dominant native saccharomyces yeast strains take over and complete full alcoholic fermentation. Plunging was limited to two times each day. Total maceration time for this vintage was between 20 – 30 days before gentle pressing. All press fractions are included in the final blend.

Once the wine had settled in tank for three or four days it was transferred to French oak puncheons for maturation. Malolactic fermentation completed naturally during the winter of 2020. In total the wine spent 12 months in barrel. New oak in the finished wine is around 20%. The only additions were sulphur dioxide post malo followed by a small top up prior to bottling. Bottled Unfined and Unfiltered.

TASTING NOTE

Nice fresh, youthful vibrance to the appearance.

A typically very highly perfumed Blue Rock Pinot bouquet of high-toned red cherry and fine floral notes. I see some extra silty brown earthy aromas which add a "darker" dimension not generally seen in Blue Rock. The oak is sitting nicely, adding some complexity and support and is not a dominant feature overall.

On tasting there is an abundance of rich and silky textures across the palate carrying with them elegant and ripe flavours. The tannins are ripe, rich and weighty balanced by a fine thread of acidity. A full flavoured yet elegant wine. Lovely energy and tension through the mid palate with great length and purity. This is delicious now but will cellar and drink beautifully for 10 plus years. Probably be at its' best from 2024 onwards.