

Pinot Noir

2020



18.5+/20 POINTS

Candice Chow | Raymond Chan Wine Reviews

July 2022

Deep, ruby-red with a purple core, lighter on the rim. The nose is softly full and with intensity, packed with aromas of dark cherry, plum layered with black pepper dusting, savoury earth, mushroom undergrowth and deep floral fragrances. Medium-full bodied, savoury on the entry, mushroom, fermented soy melded with dark cherry and plum, unfolding black pepper, liquorice and lavender, violet rich floral. Toasty oak added a layer of cinnamon and nutmeg spices and a silky, mouth-filling presence. Balanced, lacy acidity shined lights on the earthy and spicy palate. This is a rich, darktoned Pinot Noir packed with earth, savoury elements, and a silky, fragranced palate.

94 POINTS

Bob Campbell MW | The Real Review

July 2022

Rich, mouth-filling red with red-fleshed plum, cassis, blackcurrant and gamy notes. Complex, generously proportioned and slightly rustic wine that is certainly approachable now but should mellow nicely with bottle age.

5 STARS & 95 POINTS

Sam Kim | www.wineorbit.co.nz

July 2022

Superbly complex and enticing with dark berry, hazelnut, tar, toasted spice and rich floral aromas, it's concentrated and fleshy in the mouth delivering excellent weight and flow. Silky-smooth and multi-layered with loads of delectable flavours.

91 POINTS

New Zealand Wine Rater

October 2022

Huge, youthful, initially reductive nose dominated by swathes of chary, toasty barrel characters with aromas of bacon fat and game sausage. A huge, concentrated, tannin-saturated, beast of a wine with lashings of chary oak flavours. Undoubtedly powerful but we are betting it will take a long time to achieve balance and drinkability.

94 POINTS

Steve Leszczynski | qwinereviews.com

October 2022

Moreish and delicious in equal doses, the delicacy and generosity of these Pegasus Bay Pinots are captivating. Sustainably farmed on the family's Waipara vineyards, this is dense, meaty and plummy from the get-go. A pretty violet and purple flower perfume diffuses from the glass. So silky, it slides through with absolute ease. There is a charm about its presence yet there is plenty of depth here to sink your claws into. Charred oak rises up with more time in the glass with a thread of fine spices hitching a ride. A divine mouth perfume clings to a persistent finish calling you back for more, an invitation that is hard to resist. Great stuff!

95 POINTS

James Suckling | jamesuckling.com

November 2022

A bit reductive on the nose but with some air you are greeted with aromas of wild cherries, blackberries, thyme, bark, earth and orange peel. Medium-bodied with deliciously savoury undertones to the cherry fruit. There is concentration in the mid-palate that pushes the palate through to a generous finish. Deep and complex.

91 POINTS

Rebcca Gibb MW | Vinous

January 2023

The 2020 Pinot Noir is a mouthfeel, combining ripeness and fruit concentration with the cool climate tension of the Waipara Valley. It is currently a baby, all young fruit, smoky bacon-like characters and dried herbs from a portion of whole clusters in the ferment giving it savoury, gusty richness. There's plenty of fruit weight here and an abundance of fine-grained tannins in the context of Pinot Noir, providing a sturdy frame for this wine to evolve. Give it time in bottle.

Joelle Thomsom | Drinksbiz

May 2023

The concentration of flavour, depth of colour, layers of savouriness and long finish made us all immediately think of an east coast Pinot Noir wine region. Its distinctive boldness and complex flavours make this a wine to sip and savour; a vino contemplazione, as my Italian friends would say. Drinking beautifully now and it has the structure to age a lot longer. A keeper.