

Prima Donna

2019

PEGASUS BAY

FINE NORTH CANTERBURY WINE



96 POINTS

Steve Leszczynski | qwinereviews.com

October 2022 *The flagship wine for Pegasus Bay, this is just brilliant. Its class is evident when lined up alongside its sibling, albeit the latter was a year younger. There is more density and generosity yet there is no denying the sexy and lacy appeal. Boom! Red plums and dark cherries consume the mouth with a curtain of delicate spices flanking the edge. Some earthy and meaty feels drive through the mid-palate but the weight showcases finesse and deft handling. Saturated by interest, the length seemingly doesn't want to end. A sublime expression of New Zealand Pinot Noir, if you can stretch your dollar further to lash out, loosen the belt buckle, kick off your shoes and just get comfortable*

96 POINTS

James Suckling | jamesuckling.com

November 2022 *A bit of reduction on the nose but with some air you are greeted with lovely aromas of Hungarian paprika, coriander, bark, baked strawberries, raspberries and pitted red cherries. Medium- to full-bodied with silky, fruit-soaked tannins. A bit of modern woody spice add texture and depth to the bevy of red fruit and berries on the palate. Elegant and lingering. Delicious and will age wonderfully. Sustainable. Best after 2024. Screw cap*

93 POINTS

Stephen Bennett MW | New Zealand Wine Rater

October 2022 *Expansive, complex, savoury nose showing a lot of oak at this stage - cedar, crispy bacon and char. Air time reveals aromas of black cherry, kirsch and spicy clove whole-berry influence. A full-bodied, concentrated, engaging, flavoursome, massively structured wine with layers of mouthcoating tannins and a long savoury finish. A wine that pushes all the boundaries.*

95 POINTS

Cameron Douglas MS | camdouglasms.com

August 2022 *Fantastic bouquet, enticing, complex, varietal and savoury. Aromas and flavours of dark cherry and berry fruits, barrel spices and youthful energy. Dark cherry and black berry flesh, some plum and blackcurrant notes then ansie and toasty clove barrel flavours. Firm youthful tannins need time to integrate more, acidity is lively and fresh carrying flavours, a savoury dried herb quality and textures of fruit, oak and pinosity. A delicious and complex wine that will age well if given the chance*

94 POINTS

Rebecca Gibb MW | Vinous

April 2023 *Prima Donna is Pegasus Bay's flagship Pinot Noir. In its youth, the 2019 is attractively feral with wild herbs and smoky, leathery aromas outshining its sweet cherry fruit notes. After a couple of days of being open, this untamed beast gets better: it mellows, allowing its fragrant, flowing self to emerge. A high level of fruit concentration in its light to medium-bodied frame provides power without weight. Aeration allows what seem initially to be dry, untamed tannins to settle and integrate more fully. Okay, this is not a wine drinking now, but it will be given time.*

5 STARS

Michael Cooper | michaelcooperwines.com

July 2023

For its top Waipara red, Pegasus Bay wants 'a heavenly voice, a shapely body and a velvety nose'. Based on the oldest vines, it is matured for 14 to 20 months in French oak barriques (40-50 per cent new). The delicious 2019 vintage is full-coloured, with a highly fragrant, savoury bouquet. Mouthfilling, it has concentrated cherry, plum and spice flavours, showing excellent complexity, ripe, supple tannins and an ultra smooth, very harmonious finish.