

Coal River Valley Pinot Noir 2016

Tasmania, Australia



Grape Varieties	100% Pinot Noir
Winemaker	Martin Shaw & Adam Wadewitz
Closure	Screwcap
ABV	13%
Acidity	5.01g/L
Wine pH	3.63
Notes	Vegetarian, Vegan

PRODUCER

In 2011, Martin Shaw and Michael Hill Smith MW embarked upon an eventful road trip in Tasmania, culminating with the purchase of Tolpuddle Vineyard. During the trip, they asked famed local winemaker Peter Dredge to organise a tasting of Tasmania's best wines and quickly discovered their favourites came from the Tolpuddle Vineyard. Before their trip was through, the duo became the proud owners of a vineyard that would continue to define fine Tasmanian winemaking. Based in the Coal River Valley, Tolpuddle Vineyard was planted in 1988 by industry legends Tony Jordan and Garry Crittenden. A combination of its north-facing aspect and positioning within a rain shadow ensures the vineyard remains cool and dry throughout the growing season, minimising disease pressure and helping achieve optimal ripeness. Alongside talented winemaker Adam Wadewitz and viticulturist Murray Leake, Michael and Martin have spent the past decade using the lessons learned in the Adelaide Hills to replant and re-trellis this outstanding site to produce better and better wines.

VINEYARDS

The 20 hectare north east facing vineyard is located in the Coal River Valley, which is in a rain shadow, so is dry but cold. The dry climate ensures there is very low disease pressure, which in turn means that they can leave the grapes on the vines for longer to ensure they ripen fully. The soil is light silica over sandstone and of moderate vigour, ensuring well-balanced vines. In 2006 the vineyard won the inaugural Tasmanian Vineyard of the Year award, reflecting the performance of this unique and distinguished site.

VINTAGE

The growing season was drier than average meaning disease pressure was low and flowering was good. Ripening was even, and perfectly healthy fruit was harvested in late March, about two weeks earlier than average.

VINIFICATION

The grapes were all hand-picked and fermented as a combination of whole berries and whole bunches, in open fermenters, with gentle plunging. The wine was aged in French oak, of which about one third was new.

TASTING NOTES

This wine is true to the Tolpuddle Vineyard Pinot Noir style: intensely aromatic, balanced with savoury spice notes from whole bunch fermentation, along with purity of varietal expression, fresh acidity and firm tannins. The 2016 vintage is very perfumed, medium bodied and approachable.