

Coal River Valley Pinot Noir 2017

Tasmania, Australia



Grape Varieties	100% Pinot Noir
Winemaker	Martin Shaw & Adam Wadewitz
Closure	Screwcap
ABV	13.5%
Bottle Sizes	1.5lt
Notes	Vegan

PRODUCER

The Tolpuddle Vineyard was purchased by Michael Hill Smith MW and Martin Shaw in 2011. First planted in 1988 by Tony Jordan and Garry Crittenden with Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, it has since established a reputation for growing exceptional quality grapes. The vineyard took its name from the Tolpuddle Martyrs, who were transported to Australia in 1834 for starting an agrarian union. The leader of the group, George Loveless, served part of his sentence working on a property near Richmond called GlenAyr, part of which is now the Tolpuddle Vineyard.

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 2017 vintage was amongst the best seen from Tolpuddle Vineyard. There was record rainfall during the growing season, presenting challenges but also ensuring good vine growth and health. Ripening was long and cool and fortunately conditions remained dry and cool right through to harvest, allowing excellent flavour development and natural acid retention.

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. It is very perfumed, medium bodied and approachable.

AWARDS

Sommelier Wine Awards 2019, Gold