

Crystallum,

`Cuvée Cinéma` Hemel-en-Aarde Pinot Noir 2025

Walker Bay, Hemel-en Aarde, Cape South Coast, South Africa



Grape Varieties	100% Pinot Noir
Winemaker	Peter-Allan Finlayson
Closure	Diam
ABV	13%
Residual Sugar	2.5g/L
Acidity	5.4g/L
Wine pH	3.67
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian

PRODUCER

This small winery was established in 2007 by brothers Peter-Allan and Andrew Finlayson. Their father, Peter, was a pioneer in the production of cool climate Chardonnay and Pinot Noir at Bouchard Finlayson, so after university it seemed the natural thing for the boys to return home and source some fruit from the Hemel-en-Aarde valley to start their own label. Crystallum is now one of the most highly regarded wineries in South Africa, yet the Finlaysons are determined to make even better wines. Peter-Allan has sourced fruit from some new vineyards, while winemaking has evolved. All of the wines are now fermented using indigenous yeasts and new oak has been reduced to help the bright fruit shine through.

VINEYARDS

The 'Cuvée Cinéma' Pinot Noir is sourced from a single vineyard in the Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge. At 300 metres above sea level, it is one of the highest sites in the region. The region is characterised by a moderate climate which results in slower ripening and a later harvest. The site is situated on a cool, south east facing slope with cool breezes from the Walker Bay, lending a signature freshness. Dijon clones are planted at high density on clay and shale soils, which allows optimum fruit development while naturally restricting vigour and keeping crop levels low.

VINTAGE

2025 was a standout vintage, with near-perfect conditions. The cold, wet winter was followed by a dry, mild growing season. The yields recovered from the challenges of 2024 and delivered a high-quality vintage.

VINIFICATION

After the grapes are sorted, 60% are left as whole clusters before pressing. Natural fermentation begins, in stainless steel tanks, and extraction is kept to a minimum with a total of four weeks on the skins. The wine was then transferred to 228-litre old French oak barrels, where it remained for 11 months before bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Aromatic profile shows red floral notes of rose and violet, alongside red fruit characteristics, particularly cranberry and cherry. The palate is medium-bodied with a firm, slightly grippy tannin structure. Flavours of tart red berries are supported by subtle sweet spice elements. A saline note is present, contributing to the wine's overall balance. The texture is relatively weighty for the variety and ends on a persistent finish.