

QUARTZ REEF

BENDIGO ESTATE

PINOT NOIR 2016 - SINGLE VINEYARD



94 POINTS

"Expressive, fruit driven, perfume of dried rose and dried flowers, red fruits. Medium bodied, juicy softness, fine grained tannin, sweet herbal mouth-perfume, finesse and length. Quiet authority and a kiss of vanilla and rose on the finish. A bit of the old 'mineral' here too. Lovely stuff."

Review from Gary Walsh, WineFront (Sep 2018)

Divine ruby red in colour with intense cherry and berry aromas. Rich on the palate with dark cherry, subtle floral and herbaceous notes. Excellent depth, fine tannins and a long vibrant finish.

VINEYARD

This wine is from our Organic, Biodynamic Certified Estate vineyard located in the Bendigo sub-region of Central Otago. The vineyard was planted in 1998 after careful site selection. The soils on the beautiful north facing slope are Waenga fine sandy loam and Letts steepland with an elevation of 217 – 264 metres, on 44.55° south.

VINTAGE

Spring was cool and led into a very dry September and a warm dry October. November mornings presented some frost conditions however the days became warm and stayed dry. Summer developed into another warm dry season with December and January continuing this theme. In February the rainfall was well below normal. Overall a great summer yielding small, flavour packed berries with great colour.

WINEMAKING

Hand-picked on the 23rd March and 4th April. Each clone was small batch vinified with a small percentage of whole cluster per ferment. Cold Soaked for up to 7 days before indigenous yeast fermentation kicked in. Gentle plunging each day, followed by post maceration of up to 11 days to ensure optimum fruit and tannin balance. Total time on skin; 23 days. Drained directly into selected French oak barriques (28% new) where the wine aged for 12 months during which wild malolactic fermentation occurs.

The winemaking was very much in keeping with the traditional practices of the Old World. The winemaker, Rudi Bauer, has combined these techniques, and his own personal understanding, to create this wine.

TECHNICAL

pH: 3.66, TA: 5.0 g/L, Alc: 14.0%
Clones: 10/5, 5, 115, 667, 777 & Abel
Bottling Date: 31st August 2017
Ageing Potential: 6 – 9 years

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REVIEWS

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94/100: "Expressive, fruit driven, perfume of dried rose and dried flowers, red fruits. Medium bodied, juicy softness, fine grained tannin, sweet herbal mouth-perfume, finesse and length. Quiet authority and a kiss of vanilla and rose on the finish. A bit of the old 'mineral' here too. Lovely stuff." By Gary Walsh, WineFront (Sep 2018)

New Zealand
Wines
★★★★★

5 Stars and Classic Status: "Certified biodynamic, the classy 2016 vintage (5*) was estate-grown at Bendigo, hand-picked and matured for a year in French oak barriques. Full, bright ruby, it is fragrant and mouthfilling, savoury and supple, with deep cherry, plum, spice and nut flavours, showing excellent complexity. A very harmonious and 'complete' wine, it's already delicious, but also age-worthy." By Michael Cooper (Jan 18)

95
POINTS
★★★★★

95/100 and 5 Stars: "It is substantial yet poised and structured, showing delightfully perfumed aromas of red/black cherry, floral, toasted almond and vanilla on the nose with nuances of clove and game. The palate delivers succulent mouthfeel, wonderfully enhanced by rounded texture and generous fruit intensity. It is beautifully styled and composed, and finishes impressively long and silky. At its best: 2018 to 2023." By Sam Kim, Wine Orbit (Nov 2017)

93
POINTS
★★★★★

93/100 and 4.5 Stars: "Ripe, high energy pinot noir in a typical Bendigo style with bright cherry, raspberry and spice flavours. Fresh, pure and moderately concentrated wine, with sweet fruit supported by tangy acidity that suggests it's best years lie ahead." By Bob Campbell, The Real Review (Oct 2017)

18.5+
POINTS
★★★★★

18.5+/20 and 5 Stars: "Moderately deep ruby-red colour with slight purple hues, lighter on the rim. The nose is firmly concentrated with a fine and intense core of dark-red cherry and berry fruit, entwined with raspberry notes, red florals, dark herbs and notes of liquorice and minerals. Medium-full bodied, the palate has rich and sweet flavour of dark-red cherries and berry fruit with nuances of raspberry liqueur, unfolding subtle floral and thyme herb elements. The palate has excellent depth, concentration and extraction, with considerable fine-grained tannin textures forming a strong backbone and line. The acidity is fresh and lacy, contributing to the drive and vitality, and the wine carries to a long and sustained finish of raspberry liqueur, liquorice and herbs. This is a rich and sweet-fruited Pinot Noir with dark-red cherry, berry and raspberry flavours, a concentrated palate and plenty of fine-grained tannin extraction with a vibrant finish. Serve with wild duck and pork dishes over the next 7-8+ years." By Raymond Chan (Oct 2017)

