



PRIMA DONNA Pinot Noir

What the press say

2019



“... The delicious 2019 vintage is full-coloured, with a highly fragrant, savoury bouquet ... showing **excellent complexity**, ripe, supple tannins and an ultra smooth, **very harmonious finish**”
- Michael Cooper, www.michaelcooperwines.com, NZ

94/100 “... 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 ...”
- Rebecca Gibb MW, *Vinous*, USA

93/100 “... A full-bodied, concentrated, engaging, flavoursome, massively structured wine with layers of mouth-coating tannins and a long savoury finish. A wine that pushes all the boundaries.”
- Stephen Bennett MW & Lynnette Hudson, *NZ Wine Rater*, NZ

95/100 “Fantastic bouquet, enticing, complex, varietal and savoury ... A delicious and complex wine that will age well if given the chance.”
- Cameron Douglas MS, www.camdouglasms.com, NZ

96/100 “... A mellow, elegant wine with floral/red rose, dark cherry, plum, dried herb and spicy oak flavours. It has a reputation for ageing well.”
- Bob Campbell MW, *The Real Review*, NZ

97/100 “Immensely complex and seductively inviting ... wonderfully weighted palate that's richly textured and impressively long on the finish. It's opulent and velvety, while remaining structured and harmonious with a sustained engaging finish.”
- Sam Kim, *Wine Orbit*, www.wineorbit.co.nz, NZ

19/20 “... good energy and vibrancy ... This refined yet powerful Pinot Noir shows a range of ripe fruit, spice and floral details structured by fine-grained tannins for years to come.”
- Candice Chow, www.raymondchanwinereviews.co.nz, NZ

96/100 “... 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.**”
- James Suckling Wine Reviews, www.jamessuckling.com, USA

96/100 “The flagship wine for Pegasus Bay, this is just brilliant ... A sublime expression of New Zealand Pinot Noir ...”
- Steve Leszczynski, *Qwine*, www.qwinereviews.com, AUS

2017

97/100 “Immensely complex and engaging ... Mouthfilling and sumptuous, finishing impressively long and gratifying”
- Sam Kim, *Wine Orbit*, www.wineorbit.co.nz, NZ

96/100 “... Intense, elegant pinot noir ... Showing the benefit of a little bottle age but with potential to develop further. A very classy wine.”
- Bob Campbell MW, *The Real Review*, NZ



PRIMA DONNA Pinot Noir

19+/20 “ The wine is complex and pretty, delicate with underlying power and strength ... This **seductive Pinot Noir** with delicate sweet fruit and floral features on a silky mouthfeel with power, charm, and a long, satisfying finish ...”

- Candice Chow, www.raymondchanwinereviews.co.nz, NZ

97/100 “... Full body with lively acidity ... Bright and crunchy with a fleshy texture. **Balanced and layered with a long, precise finish**” - James Suckling Wine Reviews, www.jamessuckling.com, USA

94/100 “The 2017 Prima Donna Pinot Noir epitomizes what this bottling is all about: finesse, silkiness and harmony. ...” - Joe Czerwinski, www.robertparker.com, USA

★★★★★ “... A powerful, weighty red, it is notably concentrated, ... rich and complex, and finely balanced tannins. **Still very youthful, it should be long-lived**”

- Michael Cooper, *Michael Cooper's Buyer's Guide*, NZ

94/100 “... a dense, rich and full-bodied expression ... The 2017 vintage might not go down in the history books as a great one in New Zealand, but this is an impressive wine with a promising future.”

- Rebecca Gibb MW, *Vinous*, USA

2016

★★★★★ **97/100** “... Immensely complex ... It's impressively concentrated and persistent ... classically structured and refined”

- Sam Kim, *Wine Orbit*, www.wineorbit.co.nz, NZ

18/20 “... **Elegant yet powerful** ... All the components are there for a long life ahead but it is - surprisingly - already approachable ...”

- Stephen Wong MW, NZ

18/20 “ Immediately varietal ... **Youthful, complex, layered.** ... ”

- Cameron Douglas MS, camerondouglasms.com, NZ

19/20 “ quality and style tend to be extremely consistent; **earthy flavours combined with freshness, power and elegance.**”

- Joelle Thomson, www.joellethomson.com, NZ

★★★★★ **95/100** “... Dense, silken-textured wine ... **complex and appealing red**”

- Bob Campbell MW, www.bobcampbell.nz, NZ

19/20 “ The flavours are with depth and concentration. ... **integrated with harmony, complex and powerful yet gentle and elegant** ...”

- Candice Chow, www.raymondchanwinereviews.co.nz, NZ

96/100 “A very impressive pinot for the complexity and richness it offers ... a very intense and plush feel with plenty of dark cherries and plums, wrapped in smooth and polished tannin”

- Nick Stock, www.jamessuckling.com, USA



PRIMA DONNA Pinot Noir

★★★★★ “ **vibrant** cherry, plum and spice... mouthfilling ... concentrated, savoury and supple, that build to a **powerful finish.**”
- Michael Cooper, www.michaelcooper.co.nz, NZ

94/100 “**Take a bow. An excellent Pinot Noir** ... dripping in elegance ... generous ... supple and silky smooth ... **One to savour**”
- Steve Leszczynski, Qwine, www.qwinereviews.com, AUS

2015

94/100 “ ...concentrated yet elegant pinot noir, ... **Compelling**” - Gary Walsh, *The Winefront*, AUS

★★★★★ **97/100** “**This is stunningly beautiful**; ..complex bouquet ... sumptuous on the palate with rich texture and flowing mouthfeel, offering **awesome power and well as elegance** ...”
- Sam Kim, Wine Orbit, www.wineorbit.co.nz, NZ

★★★★★ **96/100** “ ... rich, concentrated and quite savoury pinot noir, ... very complex wine. **Firmly structured but accessible** ...”
- Bob Campbell MW, www.bobcampbell.nz, NZ

96/100 “**Grand, majestic and complex pinot noir** that has an expansive, entrancing style ... deep flavoursome ... expansive rising finish. **Superb!** ...” - Nick Stock, www.jamessuckling.com, USA

2013

96/100 “The refinement and brilliance of the fruit on offer here really sets this wine apart from the regular Pegasus Bay pinot noir. Deliciously rich dark cherry aromas and flavors are presented amid silky, refined and long-form tannins. **A great wine, in every respect.**”
- Nick Stock, www.jamessuckling.com, USA

"Prima Donna Pinot Noir is an elite barrel selection and in 2013 it is one of the greatest wines I have ever seen from this country."
- Matthew Dukes, UK

92/100 “ **Deep, plush, rather powerful Pinot Noir with rich, ripe tannins and excellent length.**”
- Steve Tanzer, www.internationalwinecellar.com, USA

91/100 “ mouth-filling red berry flavours supported by finely grained tannins and plenty of freshness, **finishing long and earthy.**”
- Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW, eRobertParker.com, USA

2012

Rated one of the best Pinot Noirs in the world (outside of Burgundy) - *Decanter magazine*, UK



PRIMA DONNA Pinot Noir

97/100 "...immense purity and is terrifically crunchy. There are red cherries at the core, dark spices, earth and fine chocolate at the edge. It's very long and direct. Will age magnificently"
- Nick Stock www.jamessuckling.com, USA

96/100 "...rich and complex wine with impressive weight and intensity....Powerful wine with obvious cellaring potential"
- Bob Campbell MW, NZ

2011

97/100 Pegasus Bay's winemaking team uses traditional Burgundian methods, including small vat fermentation and ageing the wine in French oak barriques for 18 months. Made "in small quantities in the best vintages from the oldest vines", this flagship pinot noir is a powerful combination of intense plum, cherry and berry flavours with haunting floral notes, Oriental spices and an intriguing savoury, forest floor, rustic character. **A delicious pinot with ageing potential.**
- Bob Campbell MW, *Gourmet Traveller Wine*, Australia

96/100 **A composed, svelte and powerful pinot with terrific focus and a real sense of freshness.** The complexity has been cleverly engineered into place and is all spicy, brambly and foresty. The palate has sheets of tannin tilted upright, is very linear, focused and composed, long and uncompromising, yet smooth and polished. **A class act.**
- Nick Stock, www.jamessuckling.com, USA

93/100 "... opens to reveal complex scents of raspberry, cola, musky spices and flowers. Sappy and fresh, with **terrific depth and intensity** to the lightly saline flavors of raspberry, bitter cherry and spices. This very firmly built wine finishes with a youthfully bitter quality and solid tannic spine for aging. Give it a double decanting if you plan to broach a bottle any time soon--or, better yet, cellar it for five years...."
- Steve Tanzer, www.internationalwinecellar.com, USA

2010

93+/100 "Medium-bodied, the palate is led by a **solid structure** of medium to firm grainy tannins and crisp acid supporting the **muscular red berry and savoury flesh, finishing long.**"
- Lisa Perrotti Brown, MW, www.robertparker.com, USA

93+/100 "Top Wine of NZ tasting (100's tasted)" "...downright Chambolle-like. Sweet and densely packed but youthfully tight, **with impressive inner-mouth energy giving the intense red berry and mineral flavours terrific penetration. The superb rising finish saturates the palate with mineral-driven fruit.** This is painfully backward today and may yet merit an even higher score with a few years in bottle."
- Steve Tanzer, www.internationalwinecellar.com, USA

94/100 "This is crazy pure with strawberry, flowers, raspberries and licorice. **Full and very dense with fabulous tannins and length.** Chewy yet polished. Drink or hold."
- James Suckling, USA

PEGASUS BAY
FINE NORTH CANTERBURY WINE



PRIMA DONNA Pinot Noir



“... should flourish for a decade. Deep and youthful in colour, it is powerful and finely fragrant, with dense cherry, plum and slight liquorice flavours, **deliciously rich and well-rounded**.

- Michael Cooper, *Buyers Guide 2013, NZ*