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*Full bottle 1,444 g. Certified organic (Ecocert). Screwcap. Winemaker Jacques de Klerk explains that he's been making Radford Dale Pinot from Elgin for a long time, but that there is a notable difference between the wine from this organic vineyard and the other vineyards he's worked with. 'It was one of the big draws when it came to buying this wine farm: organic Pinot vines, clones 115 and 777, grown on Bokkeveld shale, southeast-facing slopes. It's here that I can see the effect of organic farming the most. There is a density to the wine but also a density to the vines. They have a sturdiness - appearance-wise, they are much less showy. They don't have the big green leaves, big bunches, super-charged appearance of the conventionally farmed vineyards, but the internodes and shoots are firmer, the skins are thicker and the berries are smaller. They do whole-berry fermentations which result in semi-carbonic maceration: 'it helps to control the tannins because the tannins form from the inside of the grape skin'.*

Rosehip, bruised raspberries and, exactly as Jacques de Klerk says, a distinct cola note. There is also an under-tonal timbre of rain on black slate, firm yet smooth. And a penumbra of the underloam; wispy white mycorrhizal whispers of mushrooms in the deepest places of the forest. The tannins feel like a child's breath through a gossamer-knit cashmere scarf, weightless, yet with crochet-knot intricacy. Persistent, insistent, and, on the end, the scent of petrichor on a summer night. (TC)

Producer	Radford Dale Organic
Cuvée	Freedom
Grape variety	<u>Pinot Noir</u>
Appellation	Elgin
Region	Cape South Coast
Country	<u>South Africa</u>
Colour	Red
Alcohol	13.5%

Score	17.5
When to drink	2024 - 2031
Published on	8 Dec 2023
Date tasted	8 Dec 2023
Reviewer	<u>Tamlyn Currin</u>
Stockist	£25 RRP imported by Les Caves de Pyrene