

Abel Tasman

Bangor Pinot Noir

Our flagship wine, Bangor's Abel Tasman is showing plenty of character. A noble grape, Pinot Noir is perfectly suited to Tasmania's cool climate, developing complex red fruit flavours while maintaining a high level of natural acidity that keeps the wine mouth-watering and bright.

Abel Tasman has been aged in French oak barriques, using a range of barrels carefully selected from a number of prestigious cooperages across France. The judicious use of new and old barrels adds a delicate hint of spice and texture, that in balance with the fruit flavours makes this a classic cellaring wine.

The 2021 Abel Tasman is deliciously bright and complex with a rich aroma of dark cherry and plum, followed by a tantalising balance of characters on the palate including savoury dark cherry, plum, olives, spice and pepper.

Hand-picked April 2021
Fermented as separate clonal parcels
Barrel maturation on fine lees for 10 months
35% new French oak
14.0% abv
Small batch, 250 cases made
Cellar 5-10 years

Gold Medal – Royal Melbourne Wine Show 2022.





Abel Tasman The Story

Tasman Bay, on Bangor's northern coastline, is the site where Abel Tasman planted the Dutch flag on December 3rd, 1642. We have named this wine in honour of Abel Tasman and the beautiful island that would come to bear his name.

Bangor has a close connection to Abel Tasman. Abel Tasman's expedition, with the ships Heemskirk and Zeehaen, were the first Europeans to visit Tasmania, sighting the west coast November 24, 1642. They followed the coast eastward and attempted to anchor in Storm Bay, but bad weather forced them on. They continued on around the Tasman Peninsula and into North Bay, anchoring north-west of Cape Frederick Hendrick (the northern shores of what today is Bangor) on the 1st of December. They were relieved to have finally found a good harbour, with Tasman's journal recording "therefore we are thankful to Almighty God with grateful hearts".

During the three days they remained at anchor, members of the crew, led by Pilot-Major Francoys Jacobsz Visscher searched the shoreline for fresh water and edible plants, finding little of either. They saw smoke and signs of human habitation, but did not make any contact with Aboriginal people.

On December 3rd, the ship's carpenter Pieter Jacobsz hoisted the Dutch flag on Bangor's shore in Tasman Bay, before the expedition sailed north, naming Maria and Schouten Islands, then heading eastward towards New Zealand. The shores of the Forestier Peninsula were the only place that Tasman landed during his entire 1642 voyage.

The Dunbabin family manage Tasman Bay for its cultural and natural heritage. The area is protected as part of Bangor's 2000 hectare network of conservation reserves. Today, the shoreline of Bangor remains largely unchanged, and looks very similar to that explored by Tasman in 1642.