

MAX'S PINOT NOIR

2023

OVERVIEW

Penfolds Max's Pinot Noir is a tribute to former Chief Winemaker Max Schubert (1948-1975), a legend in Penfolds history. Max's constant pursuit of excellence paved the way for those who followed in his footsteps and allowed the status and heritage of Penfolds to grow. Max's Pinot Noir continues our endeavor with this noble varietal, drawing inspiration from Max Schubert's legacy and spirit.

GRAPE VARIETY

Pinot Noir

VINEYARD REGION

Yarra Valley and Tasmania

WINE ANALYSES

Alc: 13%, Acidity: 6.0 g/L, pH: 3.51

MATURATION

Seven months in seasoned French oak

COLOUR

Bright, vibrant cerise red

PEAK DRINKING

Now – 2027

LAST TASTED

July 2024

NOSE

Aromatically pure, with lovely varietal fruit notes to the forefront. Cherry stone, muddled strawberries, baking spice and pink peppercorn provide the aromatic backbone. Lurking in the layers below are savoury elements of caper brine and deftly charred French oak..

PALATE

The varietal purity flows onto the palate with a very natural expression of fruit. Pomegranate and spice notes compliment a salty caper brine and white cherry favour. Pithy tannins and salivating acidity give the wine plenty of length. Fine French oak provides a lovely texture while seamlessly integrating with the generous fruit flavours.

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

Both the Yarra Valley and Northern Tasmania had a mild winter with below average rainfall. However, spring was very wet with a deluge in mid-October breaking records and fully saturating soils. Conditions stabilized in December, with the Yarra Valley experiencing rainfall and temperatures aligned to the long-term average. The Yarra recorded only 6 days of temperatures above 35°C. The hottest day recorded was 39.5°C on 17th February. The White Hills vineyard in Tasmania escaped extreme heat entirely — the mercury peaked at a modest 32.3°C mid-February. The vintage was marked by low yields, a result of the challenging spring weather, yet harvest was graced with small parcels of exceptional quality.

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