

rada

2020 TASMANIA



Vineyard

The Pinot Meunier for this fourth release of the Rada Pinot Meunier/Pinot Noir is sourced from the Piper's Brook region in the north-east of the island. Meunier is a clonal mutation of Pinot Noir and is recognised viticulturally for its delicate web of white hairs on the underside of its leaves – resembling a fine dusting of flour (Meunier is French for miller). The Pinot Noir comes from two Coal River Valley vineyards, one just outside of Richmond and the other in the Tea Tree sub-region.

Vintage

After another dry winter in Southern Tasmania, budburst commenced in the Pinot Noir around the middle of September. Relentlessly windy and cold conditions over spring and through to summer saw delayed shoot growth and a challenging flowering period. The end result - open canopies and lower-than-average yields – allayed much of the handwork we do in the vineyard in a normal season. Every month of the growing season over 2019 and 2020 had lower-than-average temperatures except January, which was average. The cooler year, lower yields and open canopies delivered fruit with great intensity and driving acidity.

Tasting Notes

Translucent ruby in colour, the nose is marked by layers of bright red fruits: dried cherries, red currants and cranberry juice. Sweet strawberry fruit and a creamy texture fill out the mid-palate, which continues onto fine-grained tannins with a bright rosehip/hibiscus acidity at the finish.

Rada Penfold

Rada Penfold of the eponymous Penfold family in the 1970s 'was involved in public relations for the company and wrote a wine column (a relatively new phenomenon) for the Sydney Morning Herald, ostensibly aimed at encouraging consumers to drink more table wine... Ever the party-throwing socialite, Rada Penfold-Collins (as she became known after her marriage) approached Penfold's winemaker Max Schubert and asked him to create a new wine for an important party. He and his team came up with a sparkling blue wine and it was such a hit at the party that Rada (who had a seat on the board) suggested it be made commercially.' *Jeni Port - Crushed by Women*

Artwork

The artwork for the Rada label was commissioned from talented Hobart artist Kate Piekutowski: www.katepiekutowskiartwork.com

Technical Information

- The Pinot Meunier was harvested on 22 April 2020 at 12 baumé, while the Pinot Noir components were harvested on 31 March and 27 April 2020, both at 13.5 baumé.
- All of the fruit was 100% destemmed and the parcels were fermented separately.
- Cold soaked for three days prior to being warmed up for wild ferment (by indigenous yeasts) which lasted for about seven days prior to being pressed to tank.
- Racked off gross lees to older Francois Freres and Ermitage French oak puncheons the next day.
- Five months in oak on fine lees prior to preparing for bottling.
- Final blend: 58% Pinot Meunier, 42% Pinot Noir.
- Bottled 23 October 2020: 12.8% alc., 3.63pH, 5.2 g/L TA
- Total production: 5352 bottles.

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