

HELEN'S HILL

<u>SINGLE VINE</u>YARD YARRA VALLEY



Helen's Hill 'Long Walk' Pinot Noir 2020

ABOUT

Helen's Hill 'Long Walk' Pinot Noir made from carefully selected rows in the largest block of pinot noir on the property. Each row is 520 metres long, so when it comes time to pull on the Blundstones and venture out to this block to work the vines you know you're set for a seriously 'long walk'. This block produces fruit with distinct Yarra characteristics. Earth, spice, cloves, gamey characters and classic dark cherry notes. It provides everything we look for when we envision making an outstanding Yarra Valley pinot noir.

2020 VINTAGE REPORT

After a relatively dry winter, the Yarra Valley experienced one of the wettest spring ripening periods we have in the past decade. As a result crop loads were inconsistent and lower than average across the board. The cooler conditions continued through summer keeping the vineyard team on their toes to ensure no disease crept into the vines or fruit. Once ripe, the fruit in 2020 looked incredible, as low crop loads and cooler conditions combined to result in intense flavours and high natural acidity. A truly great vintage for cool climate varieties like Pinot Noir.

WINEMAKERS NOTES

A blend of clones were selected as the best combination for making our Long Walk Pinot Noir. MV6 forms the backbone of the wine and is complimented by D4V5 Pommard clone and Dijon Clone 115. Handpicked from low-cropped vines, the fruit is destemmed and lightly crushed, with a large portion of whole berries remaining for primary ferment. After 12 days on skins, the wine is pressed off to tank then settled and transferred to French oak puncheons (30% new) for 12 months to age and develop.

TASTING NOTES

Fresh bright red fruits are the focal point of this wine. Displayed initially through it a bouquet of fresh strawberries and cherries, then emphasised on the pallet as dark cherry and bramble fruits come to the fore. The structure is ample, coming in the form of vibrant acidity, subtle oak characters and fine tannins which work in unison to elegantly frame the powerful fruit characters.