

GIANT STEPS
VIGNERONS
YARRA VALLEY AUSTRALIA



2011 GIANT STEPS APPLEJACK VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

WINEMAKER : Phil Sexton & Steve Flamsteed
REGION : Gladysdale - Yarra Valley, Victoria
VARIETALS : Pinot Noir (Clones: MV6, 114, 115)
MATURATION : 10 months in 100% French oak (30% new)
ALCOHOL : 12.5% alc/vol

VINEYARD :

Applejack Vineyard is 80 acres and was first planted in 2001. It is located on a dramatic east-facing slope, at an elevation of nearly 1,000 feet. The vines are close planted in red/brown clay loam soils and meticulously managed.

WINEMAKING :

The fruit was hand picked and underwent a three day cold soak, sealed under a carbon dioxide blanket, with no cap work prior to an eleven day fermentation (indigenous yeasts) with minimal cap work. The 100% whole bunch fermentation was foot stomped every second day of the ferment. Fermenters were emptied into an airbag press. Must was pressed to tank. After a rough settling the wine was racked off gross lees to oak for malolactic fermentation.

TASTING NOTES :

Light, bright crimson color. It has a good intensity of raspberry and cranberry aromas plus whole bunch notes of Mediterranean herbs and moss, over subtle hints of underbrush and black truffles. Medium bodied, it has great concentration in the mouth with plenty of ripe berry flavors plus a suggestion of green peppercorns supported by crisp acid and a medium level of grainy, savory tannins. The finish is long.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

Not yet reviewed. 2010 - 92+ pts The Wine Advocate, 91 pts International Wine Cellar

ABOUT GIANT STEPS :

Established in 1998, Giant Steps explores the relationship between vineyard site, the Yarra Valley's cool climate, and different grape clones, to finely fingerprint the personality and character of each vineyard. The Sexton Vineyard, at the heart of the property, is a beautiful 75-acre, north facing hillside site located in the foothills of the Warramate ranges, rising from 425 to nearly 700 feet above the valley floor. A relatively cool site, management of this vineyard is intensive with all tasks, from pruning to harvesting, carefully done by hand.



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