

2012 INNOCENT BYSTANDER PINOT NOIR

Review Summary



93 pts “Very good clear crimson-purple; red and black cherry fruit leaps from the glass on the first whiff and first taste; a high quality pinot from a very good vintage that is all about varietal fruit, with enough spice and oak to satisfy all comers.”

James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion
2014

92 pts “Attractive musky florals, dark cherry and loganberry generosity held in check by a savory, sappy outline. Black spice and a hint of cola. Embedded acidity leads to textured, smudgy tannin. Just the right balance between cerebral intrigue and sheer enjoyment. Easy to recommend.”

Jeremy Pringle, WineWillEatItself.com
July 10, 2013

90 pts – Highly Recommended “Intense, aromatic quality of bright raspberry and mulberry. This is very stylish with lots of fruit structure. It has depth of flavor and a fine streak of incisive, almost mineral acidity. Very long.”

Nick Stock, Decanter
January 2015

88 pts “Pale ruby-purple in color, the 2012 Pinot Noir gives aromas of red cherries, raspberry leaves and mulberries with touches of lavender and damp earth. Medium-bodied with good concentration of red berry flavor, it possesses just the slightest herbal edge and is textured by a soft suggestion of tannins before finishing with good persistence.”

Lisa Perrotti-Brown, eRobertParker.com
August 2013

88 pts “Crisp, fresh and inviting, with dark berry and orange peel notes weaving through fine grained tannins, finishing with intensity.”

Harvey Steiman, Wine Spectator
August 31, 2013



88 pts “Light red. Aromas of dried red fruits and black tea are complemented by a deeper licorice nuance. Offers bitter cherry and redcurrant flavors that gain sweetness with air. Slightly pinched on the finish, which is given grip by fine-grained tannins that slip smoothly into the fruit.”

**Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar
July/August 2013**

CHAIRMAN’S AWARD (Unanimous Gold) – Best of Class

**Riverside International Wine Competition
2013**

WINE OF THE WEEK “Phil Sexton, who owns Giant Steps winery, restaurant and wine bar outside Melbourne, uses this alternate brand for some terrific values. The Pinot annually is a bargain and this year’s stylish version is a tad lighter and more elegant, and works brilliantly with lighter meat dishes. The flavors are long, but not lush as much as complex.”

**Dan Berger, Dan Berger’s Vintage Experiences
May 9, 2013**

“I don’t normally associate Pinot Noir with Australia, but this is a lovely wine. It had a delicious smokey strawberry scent on the tongue. It is light but not too airy.”

**Frederick Thurber, The Wine Observer Blog
December 1, 2014**

“Classic Yarra Valley Pinot, it’s fragrant and elegant, and also absurdly good for the price.”

**Ray Isle, FoodAndWine.com
February 10, 2014**