

## 2012 GIANT STEPS APPLEJACK VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

### Review Summary



**96 pts** “The color is bright but relatively light; the flowery, fragrant red flower/fruit bouquet an utterly logical precursor of the gloriously silky and supple red fruit palate. This is a compelling example of achieving more by doing less in the winery. It should have won the Jimmy Watson Trophy at the Melbourne Wine Awards 2014.”

**James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion**  
2015

**96 pts** “It’s hard to imagine a more manicured vineyard in a lovelier location than this vineyard high up in the Yarra. This wine has intense aromas of black cherry, with a liberal sprinkle of dried herbs. It has terrific structure and length, the tannins are firm and fine, and the oak handling superb. A Pinot Noir that could handle extended cellaring.”

**Ray Jordan, The Weekend West**  
September 2013

**95 pts/100 BEST WINES OF THE YEAR** “Whole-cluster fermentation gives this pinot scents of juniper and woodland spice, along with delicate fruit and earth details that make the wine seductive. There’s dense fruit concentration, but it’s handled with a graceful touch, the tannins an essence of flavor. If you don’t believe Australia can produce compelling pinot noir, prepare for this Yarra beauty to melt your resistance.”

**Joshua Greene, Wine & Spirits Magazine**  
October 2013

**95 pts** “Gee wiz, this vineyard has a lot of character. Owned by viticulturist Ray Guerin and run by his son Mark, it’s close planted and “located on a dramatic slope”. Yet another site I’d love to visit. The wine probably needed about half an hour in the glass to organize itself but when it did it was very special indeed. Expressively red fruited at first although darker cherries become a feature with air and whole bunch work becomes more evident. It’s the second time I’ve tasted a Giant Steps Pinot from here and the feature that I’ve begun to identify with the place is a spicy capsicum flavor. Indian and Asian five spice at that. Generously seasoned too. Suggestions of orange rind, baked rhubarb and roasted beetroot amongst sappy, foresty savory notes. A busy, busy wine. Labyrinthine flavors to get lost in and a slinky texture that makes that possibility all the more alluring. Bright acid, relatively assertive and fine smudgy tannin. Terrific.”

**Jeremy Pringle, WineWillEatItself.com**  
September 2013



**92 pts** “Bright red. High-pitched aromas of redcurrant, strawberry, cinnamon and star anise. Racy and precise, offering intense red fruit and Asian spice flavors that gain weight with aeration. Silky tannins come on late and fold smoothly into the wine's sappy fruit. Pure, focused and alluringly spicy, with excellent finishing cut and length.”

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

**90 pts – Highly Recommended** “The nose has a wild complexity and an earthy, savory structure. A touch of plum and marzipan on the palate with wild thyme and cherry. Seductively glossy, textured and juicy fresh berry fruit flavors with well-integrated oak.”

**Nick Stock, Decanter**  
**January 2015**

**‘Champion of the Show’ Trophy**

**Yarra Valley Wine Show 2013**

**‘Best Red Wine in Show’ Trophy**

**Yarra Valley Wine Show 2013**

**‘Best Pinot Noir’ Trophy**

**Yarra Valley Wine Show 2013**

**‘Best Single Vineyard Red Wine’ Trophy**

**Yarra Valley Wine Show 2013**

**GOLD MEDAL**

**Yarra Valley Wine Show 2013**

**‘Best Pinot Noir’ Trophy**

**Royal Melbourne Wine Show 2013**

**‘Best Victorian Table Wine’ Trophy**

**Royal Melbourne Wine Show 2013**

**‘Best Single Vineyard Wine’ Trophy**

**Royal Melbourne Wine Show 2013**

**GOLD MEDAL**

**Royal Melbourne Wine Show 2013**