

2017 MAISON L'ENVOYÉ

TASMANIA PINOT NOIR



WINEMAKING TEAM: Giant Steps Winery
REGION: Tasmania (Coal River Valley), Australia
VARIETALS: Pinot Noir (Clones: MV6 and D5V12)
MATURATION: 9 months in 100% French oak barriques (35% new)
ANALYSIS: 14.1% alc/vol | 3.57 pH | TA: 5.8 g/L

REGION: Tasmania has a cool maritime climate and positioned as it is, right in the path of the “roaring forties,” can offer up annual rainfalls that are measured in feet in the west of the island. Much of the eastern half of Tasmania however, has relatively moderate rainfall, particularly the south-east. The Coal River Valley itself lies in a rain-shadow created by the Mount Wellington Range to the west. Here the rainfall pattern allows for uninterrupted spring flowering and fruit set. At the other end of the season, the long, warm and dry autumn ripening days develop good colors and flavors while the cool nights help to retain Tasmania’s trademark acidity.

WINEMAKING: The fruit was hand-picked and sorted in April from mature vines growing on the Nocton Vineyard’s dolerite-based soils. The whole berries and 30% whole clusters underwent an indigenous ferment in a large French oak vat. Drain and returns along with plunges were carried out only when required. The wine matured over the following 9 months in oak barriques. Bottled unfinned and unfiltered by gravity at Giant Steps in February, 2018.

TASTING NOTES: This is a delicate and fragrant style of Pinot with distinct characters of red apple, cranberry, nutmeg, and earth notes. The judicious use of oak works to this wine’s advantage by imparting a nice mouthfeel against the generous, supple palate.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 91 pts Wine Spectator, 90 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate

ABOUT MAISON L'ENVOYÉ: Driven by a tireless hunt for elusive sites where Pinot Noir shines, Maison L'Envoyé, ‘The House of the Messenger’ traverses the globe with the intention of presenting the acme of regionality and winemaking styles. With winemaking footprints in Burgundy, Willamette Valley, Central Otago and Tasmania, they champion many unsung growers who have farmed their vineyards for decades and generations, some mere feet away from more illustriously cited neighbors. This project has been a standoutsince its debut in 2011 including Wine & Spirits naming Maison L'Envoyé a ‘Winery To Watch’ in 2015.

