

2018 GIANT STEPS SEXTON VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

Review Summary



95 pts “A finely textured and delicious pinot with ripe-strawberry and floral aromas and flavors. Medium body. Fine tannins. Flavorful finish. Always a gem.”

Nick Stock
JamesSuckling.com
June 26, 2019

93 pts “This north-facing single vineyard, from talented winemaker, Steve Flamsteed, sits along one of the Yarra’s unofficial golden slopes. With the vines now over 20-years-old, layers of complexity are creeping in. Savory mushroom and hoisin notes mingle with bright blueberry, rhubarb, wild strawberry and dried violet characters, smudged by stony minerals. The palate shows lovely texture and balance, unraveling gradually: tangy fruit first, an earthy midpalate followed by sinewy tannins, then back to fruit and spice on the long finish—a tightrope walk of fruitiness and savoriness, delicacy and power.”

Christina Pickard
Wine Enthusiast
January 2020

92 pts “Shows off a core of silky fresh cherry and raspberry flavors, with accents of black tea, toffee and nutmeg, delivering plenty of concentration and intensity. Hints of blood orange and green tea pick up momentum on the finish, where the tannins provide some appealing structure.”

MaryAnn Worobiec
Wine Spectator
December 15, 2019

91 pts “This comes from Phil Sexton’s 75-acre vineyard on a north-facing hillside in Gruyere planted in 1997 (neighboring Yarra Yering and Coldstream Hills). The vines gave a clean, spicy, transparent red in 2018, with intriguing scents of peonies and Rainier cherries. The tannins carry some bitterness, of cherry pits and skins, suggesting a match with duck confit if you open it now. Better to cellar it for a few years to gentle the tannins.”

Joshua Greene
Wine & Spirits Magazine
October 2019