

innocent bystander



2016 INNOCENT BYSTANDER CENTRAL OTAGO PINOT NOIR

WINEMAKER: Joel Tilbrook
REGION: Central Otago, New Zealand
VARIETALS: Pinot Noir
MATURATION: 11 months in 100% French oak barriques (10% new)
ANALYSIS: 13.5 % alc/vol | TA: 6.09 g/L | pH: 3.62

VINTAGE:

Cool weather at flowering, followed by a warm dry summer resulted in a low cropping season with expressive aromatics and great concentration. There was no disease pressure so the fruit was able to hang until it was beautifully ripe and harvested in perfect condition.

VINIFICATION:

Fruit was sourced from vineyards in Wanaka, Lowburn, Bendigo and Queensbury, up and down Central Otago, to achieve perfumed aromatics as well as the characteristic plummy juicy density that typifies this area. Using Steve Flamsteed's "Humbug" technique, 20% of the grapes were kept as whole bunches and juice was added to partially submerge those bunches. The fermenters were then covered, immersed with carbon dioxide and left to cold macerate until fermentation by indigenous yeasts began. After fermentation the wine spent 11 months in barrel for natural settling and was bottled without filtration or fining.

TASTING NOTES:

The 2016 Central Otago Pinot Noir is bright crimson and has lifted red and blue fruit aromas with savory, spicy undertones of clove, nutmeg and thyme. The palate delivers a core of intense and juicy black cherry flavors with licorice undertones. The wine has an elegant weight and texture with polished, structured tannins and vibrant natural acidity.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

90 pts Wine Spectator

ABOUT INNOCENT BYSTANDER:

Innocent Bystander has forged a reputation for delivering some of the Yarra Valley's most consistent, over-performing, affordable, varietal wines. Using 100% hand-picked fruit and non-intervention winemaking techniques these wines reflect Victoria's cool climate, soil and topography. In 2014, experienced vigneron Phil Sexton extended this philosophy across the Tasman Sea to New Zealand adding two new cool climate regions – Central Otago and Marlborough - to Innocent Bystander's portfolio.



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