

2016 GIANT STEPS

APPLEJACK VINEYARD PINOT NOIR



WINEMAKER: Phil Sexton & Steve Flamsteed
REGION: Gladysdale - Yarra Valley, Victoria
VARIETALS: Pinot Noir (Clone MV6)
MATURATION: 11 months in French oak (25% new)
ANALYSIS: 13.8% alc/vol | TA: 6.69 | pH: 3.54

VINEYARD: Applejack Vineyard is 80 acres and was planted in 2001 atop its distinctive dark-red volcanic loam soil. It is located on a dramatic east-facing slope, at an elevation of nearly 1,000 feet that results in a cooler and extended growing season ideally suited for Pinot Noir. The vines are close planted and meticulously managed.

WINEMAKING: Giant Steps embraces a natural winemaking philosophy, while making quality the priority. There is minimal intervention in the vineyard and the grapes are 100% hand-picked. Some of the grapes were crushed with 40% fermented as whole clusters. Fermentation took place using indigenous yeasts in one 4000L open top oak vat and one 5000L open top fermenter. The wine was matured in French oak barrels, 25% of which were new. The wine was not filtered prior to being bottled by gravity.

TASTING NOTES: Intense redcurrant and cranberry aromas plus whole bunch notes of Mediterranean herbs and moss overlay subtle hints of beetroot and rhubarb on the nose. Medium-bodied, it has an impressive concentration in the mouth with generous ripe berry flavors. The ample tannins are soft and fleshy adding texture to a seamless flow and lasting finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 93 pts Wine Spectator, 92 pts Wine & Spirits, 92 pts Wine Enthusiast

ABOUT GIANT STEPS: Established in 1998, Giant Steps is owned by Phil Sexton and takes its name from John Coltrane's eponymous first solo jazz album. Giant Steps' fruit is biodynamically farmed and vinified with minimal intervention in its gravity flow winery. The Yarra Valley range is highly expressive, true to the climate, soil and topography of this region. The Single Vineyard range is crafted from the most site-expressive fruit off the best vineyards in great years. Giant Steps has forged a reputation for delivering some of Australia's most consistent, over-performing, varietal wines reflected by its ongoing, enviable global acclaim including Wine & Spirits Top 100 Wineries of the Year, 2013-2018.

