

# 2018 INNOCENT BYSTANDER PINOT NOIR



**WINEMAKER:** Joel Tilbrook  
**REGION:** Yarra Valley, Victoria  
**VARIETALS:** Pinot Noir  
**MATURATION:** 4 months in seasoned French oak  
**ALCOHOL:** 13.0% alc/vol

**REGION:** Wedged up against the snowy Great Dividing Range, one hour east of Melbourne, the Yarra Valley was formed out of ancient volcanic rock with a shallow covering of ancient infertile soils. In these cold alpine conditions, Pinot Noir reigns.

**WINEMAKING:** 100% Hand picked. De-stemmed to open top fermenters with 40% whole bunches. A five day cold soak was followed by fermentation with indigenous yeast strains. Both gentle plunging and 'drain and returns' by gravity were applied daily to the fermenters. The wine was matured in seasoned French oak for four months. Indigenous malolactic fermentation occurred spontaneously at the end of autumn. No filtration at bottling.

**TASTING NOTES:** A full flavored, medium bodied Pinot Noir that speaks to its Yarra Valley terroir. The aromas are driven by whole bunch perfumes. Cranberry, boysenberry and cherry with earthy dried spices. The palate shows juicy dark fruits, a velvety mouthfeel and finishes with soft savory tannins.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 90 pts JamesSuckling.com

**ABOUT INNOCENT BYSTANDER:** Established in 1998, 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, wild ferments and gravity-flow winemaking techniques, their wines, made with minimal filtration and fining, reflect the climate, soil and topography of the Yarra Valley. These strikingly branded wines have established a strong reputation in restaurants and fine wine stores around the world.

