

2023 PENLEY ESTATE

FRANCIS CABERNET FRANC

Penley.



WINEMAKER: Kate Goodman
REGION: Coonawarra, South Australia
VARIETALS: Cabernet Franc
MATURATION: Stainless steel
ANALYSIS: 12.5% alc/vol | 5.4 g/L TA | 3.49 pH

VINTAGE NOTES: Vintage 2023 faced its third consecutive La Niña event, surprising many after a dry winter with below-average rainfall. Despite a particularly dry July, spring brought relief with 30% above-average rainfall, restoring balance in mid-November. The wet spring was beneficial for aquifer recharge and healthy canopies, though it raised disease risks. Despite frequent rain from February to harvest, diligent management ensured a successful vintage. The ripening period had temperatures mostly on or below average, resulting in wines with a lighter style, showcasing great flavor and acid profiles.

WINEMAKER NOTES: The grapes are picked by hand and immediately transported the short distance to the winery. 30% were kept as whole bunches for fermentation in small open containers. The wine sees no oak and is bottled young and fresh.

TASTING NOTES: The wine opens aromatically with blue fruits, purple florals, and star anise spice. The palate is beautiful and juicy, with a pink peppercorn spice lift. There's a real energy and plushness to the fruit in the mid palate, framed by lovely velvety tannin to round out the finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: Not yet reviewed 2021 - 90 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 90 pts JamesSuckling.com

ABOUT PENLEY: Penley is located in the heart of one of Australia's greatest Cabernet wine regions: Coonawarra. Established in 1988 by the direct descendants of the pioneering Penfold and Tolley winemaking families, Coonawarra's famed Terra Rossa soils were selected for their ability to produce terroir-driven wines of true regional character. Penley is now widely regarded as one of the region's leading producers, and is committed to reducing its environmental footprint, from moving toward organic vineyard practices, through to their selection of lightweight glass for bottles. In 2023, the winery and vineyards were certified sustainable by Sustainable Winegrowing Australia.

