

# 2022 INNOCENT BYSTANDER

## CENTRAL OTAGO PINOT NOIR



**WINEMAKER:** Joel Tilbrook  
**REGION:** Central Otago, New Zealand  
**VARIETAL:** 100% Pinot Noir  
**MATURATION:** 10 months in 100% French oak barriques (15% new)  
**ALCOHOL:** 14.0% alc/vol | TA: 5.5 g/L | pH: 3.65

**VINTAGE:** Central Otago's position surrounded by mountain ranges provides a more continental climate than maritime, and due to its southern location, typically, the vineyards enjoy hot days and cool nights. In 2022, after a slightly warmer than average and longer growing season, the Pinot Noir produced a good quantity, and with ample time to ripen on the vine, was picked at-will with promising quality.

**WINEMAKING:** Fruit was sourced from vineyards in Wanaka, Lowburn and Queensbury, up and down Central Otago, to achieve perfumed aromatics as well as the characteristic plummy juicy density that typifies this area. 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 10 months in barrel for natural settling and was bottled without filtration or fining. This wine is vegan friendly.

**TASTING NOTES:** Leads with a youthful perfume of fresh raspberries and black currant, black tea and violets. The crisp palate reveals the wonderfully ripe vintage, with juicy Morello cherry, mulberry and a hint of earth, lifted by its vibrant natural acidity. A delicate tannin structure dances on the palate, with a fine, round finish.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 92 pts JamesSuckling.com

**ABOUT INNOCENT BYSTANDER:** Innocent Bystander has forged a reputation for delivering some of the most consistent, over-performing, affordable, varietal wines from Australia and New Zealand. Using 100% hand-picked fruit and non-intervention winemaking techniques these wines reflect each location's cool climate, soil and topography.



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