



William Downie

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William Downie 2021 Bull Swamp Pinot Noir

Winemaker: William Downie

Grape(s): Pinot Noir

GI: Gippsland

Site(s): Bull Swamp Vineyard

Vintage notes: 2021 was, for the most part, a very good growing season in Gippsland. January and February were mild with just enough rain to keep the vines green and lush. As a result fruit was harvested with the highest level of maturity seen since 2018.

Vineyard notes: Bull Swamp vineyard is farmed biodynamically, in the process of certification. Vines were planted in 1981, all are cane pruned, no tillage. Completely dry-grown on volcanic soils. The warmest single vineyard site of Bill's, with the least airflow, sitting at 120-150m above sea level with steep northern exposure. There are four separate parcels of Pinot Noir, two north facing blocks of MV6 and another of Abel, as well as a more sheltered south facing block of MV6.

Winemaking: All of the fruit is hand sorted and then fully destemmed. Whole berries are transferred by gravity to both wooden and stainless steel open vats. Fermentation takes place without any additions, temperature control, punch downs or pump overs. The must is pressed after 30 days and then matured in old Australian made French oak barriques. The wine is assembled and a small SO2 addition made before bottling without fining or filtration in December 2021.

Closure: Diam 5 Origine **ABV:** 13.5%

LEGEND Tasting Notes: Deeply colored with rich, red and dark fruit aromas (Davidson plum, black cherry), a distinct orange oil note, as well as cinnamon myrtle and clove. The palate is dense and complex, tasting of ripe yet transparent black and red fruits, subtle spice, violets, and damp earth. It has a velvety tannin structure and noticeable freshness on a persistent and elegant finish.

Label design: All art done by Reg Mombassa, a New Zealand-born, Australian-raised artist and musician

Production size: 140 dozen