

SAILOR SEEKS HORSE

pinot noir 2022



LEGEND

AUSTRALIAN WINE IMPORTS

Winemaker: Paul & Gilli Lipscombe

Grape(s): Pinot Noir **GI:** Tasmania

Site(s): Estate vineyard in Huon Valley

Vintage notes: 2022 can be summed up as 'wet then dry'. Good canopies early in the season and then a relatively stress-free growing season meant bunches were a little fuller than 2021 and so yields came in at about Sailor Seeks Horse's average, which means a few more bottles this year than last. While it was dry at the end of summer and temperatures were fairly normal, it wasn't particularly sunny.

Vineyard notes: Planted in 2005, the 6.5ha site was abandoned for several years by its original owners before being resuscitated by the Lipscombes. The site had a lot of potential: NE-facing slope, frost free(ish) and well drained sandy-loam soil over clay. After some replanting, the vineyard is now composed of 2 hectares of chardonnay (Dijon clones 277, 76, 95 and 96), with the rest of the vineyard made up of the pinot noir clones 114, 115, MV6, 777, 2051 (D5V12) and 8048 (D2V6). Everything is planted at a density of 4000 vines/ha, which seems about right for the soil capacity. 700mm or so of average annual rainfall provides enough to farm without irrigation. Vines are farmed without synthetic additions.

Winemaking: Hand-picked with 5% whole bunches. Fruit is soaked at ambient temperature (cold in the Huon) and then natural yeast commence the fermentation process. Once the ferment is complete, the Lipscombes taste the wine on skins until the tannin profile is right, and then press straight to barrel. The wine is left unsulphured until mid-summer, before a small SO2 add. Aged in about 10% new oak, a variety of barrel sizes. 12 months in oak followed by 3 months in stainless steel before bottling. No fining.

Closure: Stelvin **ABV:** 13.1%

Tasting Notes: Notes of native riberry, sour red cherry, black plum, smoked truffle, anise, and fern. A delicate balance between red and dark fruits, high-toned aromatics, layered depth and verve.

Production size: 770 cases