

# SAILOR SEEKS HORSE

pinot noir 2024



## LEGEND

AUSTRALIAN WINE IMPORTS

**Winemaker:** Paul & Gilli Lipscombe

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

**Site(s):** Estate vineyard in Huon Valley

**Vintage notes:** A very dry year, with rainfall down about 35% on average. The dry season married with Paul and Gilli Lipscomb's dry farming philosophy meant that vigour was lacking early on, and bunches were trending smaller than usual. However, perhaps because of the smaller bunches and leaves, ripening occurred slowly. The harvest was able to be pushed beyond many of Tasmania's other vineyards, with picks occurring over a month long period in March and April. Yields were low, but the fruit that remained has created wines of purity and intensity.

**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:** The estate comprises the Wadenswil and D5 V12 clones with 5% whole bunch. Handpicked, mostly whole berry ferments via wild yeast. Ambient soak, super-gentle plunge twice a day, tasted for tannin alignment post-ferment before pressing when harmonized. 12 months in oak, 27% new oak. Unsulphured until mid-summer and then bottled unfined.

**Closure:** Stelvin **ABV:** 13.4%

**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:** 375 dozen