OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage, 10+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED October 2020

2020 INNES VINEYARD PINOT GRIS

GRAPE VARIETY

100% pinot gris grown by David and Annette Innes at Littlehampton in the Adelaide Hills.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 28 February | Alcohol: 13.5% | pH: 3.16 | Acidity: 5.8g/L

MATURATION

Fermented in tank and held on lees in tank for 6 months with regular stirring to build complexity.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Pale straw with green hues. Floral and spicy aromas of honeysuckle, thyme and glacé ginger with lifted notes of zesty gooseberry, Nashi pear and nectarine. A generous and textural palate of vibrant and pure citrus, with fleshy stone fruit and pear, balanced by mineral acidity and excellent length for a succulent, crisp finish.

BACKGROUND

The Adelaide Hills has an altitude ranging from 400-600m and a rainfall of around 700-1000mm. Soils consist of sandy loam overlying weathered shale and clay, which provide excellent conditions for viticulture. Littlehampton lies on the eastern side of the Adelaide Hills and has a unique aspect for superlative pinot gris. Viticulture was first established in the Adelaide Hills in 1839 by John Barton Hack near Mount Barker, just 5km from Littlehampton. Pinot gris, called tokay d'Alsace in France, grauburgunder in Germany and pinot grigio in Italy, has its origins in France and has become a highly regarded variety around the world.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Vintage 2020 will be remembered for excellent quality wines from the Adelaide Hills, except for fire affected areas. Some reduction of yield was caused by misty rain and very cold conditions at flowering. Bunch size was normal, although with fewer berries having set it resulted in more open clusters and highly variable crop levels. Significant heatwaves from mid-December to the end of January reduced shoot growth and berry size, however higher than average rainfall at the end of January reduced the stress just before veraison, followed by a cool ripening period in February. The Adelaide Hills bushfire ignited near Cudlee Creek on a 'Catastrophic Fire Day' on 20 December 2019 and burned a swath of country including wine growing areas of Lenswood, Lobethal and Mount Torrens, destroying around 30% of Adelaide Hills vineyards. The Henschke Lenswood Vineyard was totally decimated. No Henschke Lenswood wines were made from the 2020 vintage due to the bushfires. The 2020 pinot gris from Davin Innes' vineyard at Littlehampton was picked in late February and is finely structured, balanced and elegant.

