



Port Phillip Estate ‘Morillon’ Pinot Noir 2022

Tasting Notes

Vineyard

The Port Phillip Estate Red Hill vineyard is located on the Mornington Peninsula at Red Hill, on Eocene volcanic soils. Our wines are made from domain grown, handpicked grapes and aim to manifest terroir: the integration of our geology and soils with the macroclimate of our region, the mesoclimates of the various sites within our vineyard and the weather of the annual grape growing season. Our cultural operations in the vineyard and practices in the winery endeavour to articulate these unique characteristics diligently, respectfully and without artifice.

Vintage

The cold and windy 2021 Winter saw approximately 185 mm of rainfall throughout June, July, and August, slightly below average. Windy conditions continued throughout Spring, with approximately 310 mm of rainfall throughout the period, well above average. This rainfall ensured soils were fully replenished leading into Summer. Cold soils and windy conditions affected flowering in early November, with many of the earlier ripening vineyards in the region experiencing a poor fruit set, thus dramatically reducing yields. The later flowering vineyards benefited from more favourable weather conditions in late November. Summer conditions were ideal, with mild to warm days broken sporadically by favourable rainfall, almost 75 mm in January, ensuring vines had adequate water leading to and through veraison, mid to late January. Ideal conditions throughout February meant ripening was slow and steady. Harvest commenced in early March. The weather remained mild throughout, and harvest progressed at an even pace. While yields

were significantly lower than average, fruit quality was excellent with intense flavour concentration and refined acidity.

Tasted November 2023

The Morillon Pinot Noir is sourced from 0.4 hectare within the oldest Pinot Noir block (0.6 hectare) at Port Phillip Estate’s Red Hill vineyard. This block was planted in 1987 on a site nestled among folds of the hilly country in Red Hill. The iron and magnesium-rich but otherwise weathered basalts confer a savoury, earthy minerality to the wine. With maturity, the original block consistently produces wine with an extra level of structure, balance and intensity. We bottle a small portion separately as the ultimate expression of Pinot Noir from this vineyard.

Harvested in late March, the fruit was fermented in open top stainless steel vessels. The ferment occurred spontaneously with ambient yeasts and lasted 18 days. Following fermentation, the wine was gently pressed and racked into French oak barriques (of which 20% were new) and underwent indigenous malolactic fermentation. The wine was matured in oak for 12 months before being bottled without fining or filtration.

The nose opens to enticing red fruit aromas of crushed strawberries, raspberries, and pomegranate, merging to notes of fresh herb, brown spice, and earth. The palate is elegant and fine with bright red cherry and cranberry fruit flavours that mingle between a line of supple savoury tannin. Long, expansive, and intricately detailed with a bright line of cranberry like acid, this wine is looking bright and youthful now but will reward with time in the cellar. 13.5% alc.