

Pinot Noir/Pinot Gris - Wine Offer

June 2009



Pinot Noir – there is just something special that evokes the senses of Pinotphiles. It's hard to grow, tricky to ferment, somewhat unstable around bacteria and tends to be lighter in colour than most red varieties. Pinot Noir prefers being handled gently, and it does better without racking due to its sensitive skin. Pinot Noir is capricious, resists consistency from one vintage to the next and changes wildly as it ages. But when it is done right, Pinot Noir exudes a subtle complexity that is unmatched by any other varietal. Even with intense aromas of rose petals, violets or plum, Pinot Noir retains a restrained character that teases the senses. Its soft silkiness on the palate excites the tastebuds, and its long finish is sensuous in its muted excitement. In a good vintage, aged Pinot Noir can transport a taster to wine nirvana and remain indelibly etched in your memory for a lifetime.

Pinot Gris has made a rapid entry into the Australian wine scene. Five years ago, there was less than 200 tonnes of grapes produced. Today there is close to 3000 tonnes and winemakers are unable to keep up with market demand. In fact, looking at projected grape intake figures, it would not be surprising if in the future, Pinot Gris became as popular as Riesling or Sauvignon Blanc. Being a variant of Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris originated in the Burgundian vineyards of France. However it wasn't until the vine migrated to the northern region of Alsace, that it made a name for itself. Gris, meaning grey in French, refers to the colour of the Pinot Gris grapes. As a result, wines made from Pinot Gris often have a slight coppery hue. They have a delicately perfumed aroma with flavours stretching from fresh pear through to tropical fruits. Pinot Gris unsurprisingly shares the same lineage as Chardonnay in that it has good palate weight and flavour.

PINOT NOIR

William Downie Yarra Valley Pinot Noir 2008 – LIMITED STOCKS

The fruit was grown on the only granite based soils planted to vines in the Yarra Valley. The nose shows plum and raspberry fruit as well as rose, violet and clove. The wine is yet to show the classic game meat and earth aromas we expect from the Yarra. This suggests a long life to come and that some patience will be rewarded. The palate is very tight for the moment but it builds in weight and texture with time in the glass.

William Downie Gippsland Pinot Noir 2008 – LIMITED STOCKS

The first release of this wine; it comes from an 18 year old vineyard in Leongatha planted at 6500 vines/hectare. William's first real job was in a vineyard not far from this one. It's a dense wine with wonderful concentration. The nose shows plum and preserved cherry. There are also hints of fennel, thyme and liquorice. The palate has more plum, prune and even medjool date. A powerful wine with great length and texture.

Maude Pinot Noir 2006

The colour, a vibrant scarlet leads into a nose of dark berry fruits, ripe plums, subtle char with lifted hints of violets and wild thyme. The palate is full rich Pinot Noir with complexity. Typical of Central Otago Pinot Noir, this wine has ripe concentrated dark fruit flavours. However, more interesting is the complexing characters in this wine evident as the forest floor and dried spice flavours. Combining these with savory long fruit tannins and well integrated oak has given rise to a wine we feel will reward careful cellaring for up to 10 years.

*Deep ruby garnet. Perfumed soapy aromas give way to fruit cake cherries and spice scent while the lifted, spicy flavours and cherry and plum fruit have a deep earthy, savoury, smoky and slightly tarry undercurrent. It's quite a gutsy wine with firm tannins, a hint of stewed tamarillo loitering in the background and another bright flourish of spice on the concentrated, long, savoury, full-bodied finish - **Sue Courteney, Wine of the Week***

Tomboy Hill Smythe's Creek Pinot Noir 2006 – LIMITED STOCKS

The wine exhibits subdued aromas of red berries, briar and oak. The palate it is rich, dense and concentrated spinning you around with flavours of black cherries, boysenberries and blackberries. The wine shows complexity and refinement and the cellar well. The best parcels of grapes from this single vineyard are chosen for this wine. The fine integrated tannins give structure and length and it will develop into a seamless wine with opulent fruit, structure and power.

*Has elements of spice, mint and stem on the bouquet, but on the equally intense and very long palate the red cherry, strawberry and raspberry fruits are in abundance. Screwcap 13.3° alc. **95 Points James Halliday Wine Companion 2009***

Delta Vineyard Pinot Noir 2007

From Marlborough, this wine exhibits a deep pinky red colour with strong Pinot Noir aromatic characters of lifted cherry aromas and violet notes. The palate is savoury and a little smoky with a gorgeous silky texture, ripe plum, berry and cherries with an intriguing underlying earthiness, woody herbs, and an underpinning of anise-like spices and a dry, gamey, savoury finish. Seductive and succulent with a delicious lingering aftertaste. Tremendous value.

*Quite a high extraction on the nose with dark cherry and plum with a touch of mulberry, the palate soft and supple with a plush finish tinged with white pepper - **90 Points, The Wine Advocate***

Josef Chromy Pinot Noir 2007

Deep ruby red in colour with dark cherry and plum, lifted strawberry, subtle spice and chocolatey oak overtones. The palate displays vibrant strawberry and cherry fruit flavours with layers of spice, oak and earthy characters. The palate is silky with a luscious and fleshy mouth feel well balanced by the fine persistent tannins and subtle French oak giving the wine length and structure.

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Spy Valley Pinot Noir 2007

Medium red in colour, the bouquet exhibits hints of perfume and flowers with rich plummy fruit, and a dark chocolatey background. This leads to a palate with generous weight, complex and challenging. Fine firm tannins and a supple, velvety finish.

GOLD - 07 Pinot Noir - New Zealand International Wine Show, Sep 08

Blue Gold Medal - 2007 Pinot Noir - Sydney International Wine Competition 2009, Dec 08

92 points - 2008 Year's Best - Spy Valley Pinot Noir - Wine & Spirits, Jan 09

Carrick Unravelled Pinot Noir 2007

This wine displays lots of vibrant fruit from red cherry, raspberry to blackberries with a hint of spice underneath. The front palate is packed with sweet bright fruit with the same red cherries and blackberries on the nose following through to the flavours. The soft tannins give this wine lovely mid-palate weight with a dark cocoa finish. This is a vibrant, fruit driven wine that can be cellared or enjoyed in its youth.

This is a superb wine, even more so considering it's the second label of Carrick, a leading Central Otago pinot producer at Cromwell, near beautiful Queenstown. It has some of the lushness of fruit that typifies Central Otago pinots. Black cherry aromas laced with spiciness lead into a rich, deep, very intense but supple and rounded palate with soft, silky tannins and effortless balance. Oak is underplayed and alcohol is moderate for this region, at 13.5%. Drink now and for five years. - **95/100 points, Huon Hooke - 'Wine of the Week' in Good Living - Sydney Morning Herald, Tuesday 28/10/08**

Stefano Lubiana Primavera Pinot Noir 2007

Vibrant crimson red with garnet tinges, the nose explodes with aromas of vanilla, raspberries and red berry fruit following on with lovely spice, cherry and hints of cream. The palate is pristinely clean with dark plum and spice characters joined by a hint of mocha. The palate also shows great intensity and is rich and full and loaded with dark berry fruits, plum and black ripe cherries. A good balance between raspberry and plum, natural acidity, and seasoned nutmeg, cedary oak.

Bright crimson red. Fragrant and juicy with an array of raspberry, strawberry and cranberries, a little bark and earth with a dab of vanilla oak. Sprightly and fresh in a Beaujolais sort of way. On the palate light to medium bodied with juicy summer berry, cherry and cranberry fruit, vanilla and some slightly earthy characters. Dry and crunchy with fine sappy tannins and a dry finish (although not expansive or long). A delicious wine. **91 Points, Gary Walsh, Winorama**

PINOT GRIS

Carrick Pinot Gris 2008

The complex nose shows layers of subtle floral notes, pears, exotic fruits and lightly spiced aromatics. The weighty palate has a salty minerality intermingled with delicate floral characteristics and has a long finish of dried pears. This is an elegant, textural wine that is well balanced and very easy to drink.

Unlike many of the Pinot Gris examples available, this is not a soft, lolly drink. Weaving strands of old French oak and noticeable acidity together has given an underpinning firmness. Splice this with a developing texture, red apple and pear flavours, and you have a fair lead to a harmonious off-dry finish. Fresh off the Carrick, so to speak, this lovely example will continue to develop and should prove to be gorgeous late summer drinking. So pipe "up grog" and enjoy. **Kent Slocombe, The Press, January 2009**

Spy Valley Pinot Gris 2008

Pale straw in colour, the wine explodes with a bouquet of guava, melons and ripe pears with a dash of baked apple crumble. The palate is long and rich with ripe fruit up front leading to a complex finish combining Nashi pear, baked almonds and even stewed pears. A full palate but retaining lovely elegance.

Spy Valley 2008 Pinot Gris was awarded a Blue Gold Medal at the prestigious Sydney International Wine Competition 2009

This wine consistently offers great value. It's a full-bodied wine with soft, slightly sweet pear, citrus fruit and spice flavours, a hint of ginger, and excellent depth, varietal character and harmony - 4 Stars Michael Cooper's Buyer's Guide to New Zealand Wines 2009, November 2008

Scorpo Pinot Gris 2007

A lustrous golden straw hue greets the eye before a chameleon nose of lush grapefruit, peach and melon one minute, cashew nut, cucumber and spices the next. These characters reappear on a rich and opulent palate pierced by a deep groove of streamlined fruit acidity. Very true to character, viscous and vivacious finishing clean and dry.

Smells good - apples, pear and peaches, a musky fragrance, white flowers and baby oil. On the palate fresh and lively with good clean acid, a pleasing minerality and excellent length of flavour. It's refreshing and dry, neither phenolic nor oily, and drinks beautifully from start to finish. I'd say it's a local benchmark. Excellent wine. **93 Points, Gary Walsh - Winorama, July 2008**

Josef Chromy Pinot Gris 2008

This wine is harvested quite ripe in order to gain rich flavours and texture. Pale straw green in colour, the wine displays aromas of fresh apricot and ripe citrus leading to a palate which is crisp with zesty flavours of ripe apricot and pear with hints of grapefruit. The palate is generous and full with the rich weight and texture beautifully balanced by a lingering zesty finish.

J.L Wolf Pinot Gris 2007

It's very pale gold, with rich aromas on the nose of ripe apples and pears, a touch of honey, spice and apricot but also an underlying minerality and citrusy streak. Lovely depth of fruit in the mouth giving richness and roundness without too much alcohol.

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ORDER FORM

Please return this order form via post, email or fax (details below) *by 30th June 2009* to qualify for the special pricing. Orders received after this date will be subject to the normal pricing. A further discount of 5% will apply for orders of one (1) dozen or more (can be mixed). Please note, stock is subject to availability and will be processed on a first come first served basis. Full payment required prior to dispatch.

	Pricing		No. Bottles
	Normal	Offer	
PINOT NOIR			
Carrick Unravelled Pinot Noir 2007 (Central Otago, NZ)	\$33.95	\$29.95	.....
Spy Valley Pinot Noir 2007 (Marlborough, NZ)	\$31.95	\$28.95	.....
Delta Vineyard Pinot Noir 2007 (Marlborough, NZ)	\$25.95	\$22.95	.....
William Downie Pinot Noir 2008 (Yarra Valley, VIC)	\$61.95	\$55.95	.....
William Downie Pinot Noir 2008 (Gippsland, VIC)	\$61.95	\$55.95	.....
Maude Pinot Noir 2006 (Central Otago, NZ)	\$43.95	\$40.95	.....
Stefano Lubiana Primavera Pinot Noir 2007 (Granton, TAS)	\$29.95	\$26.95	.....
Josef Chromy Pinot Noir 2007 (Relbia, TAS)	\$29.95	\$26.95	.....

PINOT GRIS			
Carrick Pinot Gris 2008 (Central Otago, NZ)	\$34.95	\$31.95	.....
Spy Valley Pinot Gris 2008 (Marlborough, NZ)	\$27.95	\$24.95	.....
Scorpo Pinot Gris 2007 (Mornington Peninsula, VIC)	\$32.99	\$29.99	.....
Josef Chromy Pinot Gris 2008 (Relbia, TAS)	\$24.95	\$20.95	.....
J.L Wolf Pinot Gris (Pfalz, Germany)	\$24.95	\$21.95	.....

Subtotal.....

Less case discount – (5%).....

TOTAL.....

Fax orders to Flagstaff Cellars on (03) 9326 3985

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