

# Tasting Notes

*"An enticing nose of red fruits and blueberries, the raspberry and sweet spice notes linger on the palate with a typical Bendigo liquorice richness and gentle, fine tannins."* Olly Masters (Winemaker)



Tempo (Italian for "time") is a musical term that indicates the speed at which a piece of music or a song should be played. It's determined by how fast or slow the beats are – it's like the pulse of the music.

## Vintage

Warm temperatures at the start of the season, without the usual buffeting spring winds, resulted in rapid growth, aided by the moist ground from a wet winter. The warmth continued to flowering at the end of November before a cool front slowed growth but it was a good fruit set. January was hot and dry with a few consecutive days over 30°C+. Conditions stayed warm for the rest of the season. Harvest started at the end of March and continued over the next month. This was a dream season in terms of fruit quality and vine health with yields also above the long-term average. Berry size was even aiding flavour consistency and varietal expression, with good colour development and tannin ripeness in the Pinot Noir. This season will be remembered as one of the best. The Pinot Noir for this blend was hand-picked at between 4.4-7.3 tonnes per hectare and Growing Degree Days (GDDs) were 1152.

## Food Match

This Pinot Noir is versatile and enjoyable just as a glass on its own but try pairing with lamb and venison, or with vegetable dishes especially mushrooms. It's also the perfect accompaniment to game birds such as quail, turkey and duck and will even work with salmon or tuna dishes.

## Details

Region	Central Otago, New Zealand	Vineyard	Estate-grown, single vineyard
Sub-region	Bendigo, Single Vineyard	Variety/Clones	UCD 5 (25.7%), 4 (25.4%), 777 (19.3%), Abel (17.5%) & 667 (12.1%)
Planting	2004/05/07 Altitude: 210-350m	Harvested	28 March – 26 April 2022
Harvest Analysis	Brix: 24.6-25.4 / pH: 3.39-3.52 / TA: 5.9-7.3 g/l	Bottled	9 February 2023 (Stelvin closure)
Wine Analysis	Alc: 14% / pH: 3.71 / TA: 5.7 g/l	Cellaring	1-5+ years

## Winemaking

The fruit was chilled overnight before destemming the next day, typically as 4 tonne lots in open top fermenters with a proportion of whole bunches (an average of 11%) retained. For this wine a higher level of whole bunch and pump over was used to enhance fruit expression. The crushed fruit was allowed to warm slowly for 5-7 days as the natural yeast ferment began to take place. Ferments were hand plunged 1-2 times per day. Cooling was used to ensure the ferments peaked below 32°C. The wine was then held warm (>20°C) post ferment to allow ongoing tannin integration. After an average of 25 days on skins the wines were then pressed to tank where they were settled for 1-2 days before being racked into 300 litre French oak barrels. The wine was inoculated for malolactic fermentation in spring and the final wine selection made by identifying ferments and barrels from all the wines post malolactic fermentation. Aiming to produce an earlier maturing style, the final selection received 7% new oak. The wine was racked, filtered and bottled in February 2023.

## Misha's Vineyard

Misha's Vineyard is located on a spectacular site in New Zealand on the edge of Lake Dunstan in the Bendigo sub-region of Central Otago. The sun drenched north-west facing terraces of the 57-hectare estate provide optimal conditions for producing world-class Pinot Noir and aromatic white varieties. Our 'no compromise' philosophy requires exacting viticulture regimes, hand-picking, and considerate winemaking methodologies.