



Pannell  *Family*
Picardy

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2022

INCLUDING THE NEW RELEASE 2020 PINOT NOIR,
2019 SHIRAZ AND 2018 MERLIMONT



2020 PICARDY PINOT NOIR

We are thrilled to announce the release of the much awaited 2020 Picardy Pinot Noir. We have been exceptionally happy with each vintage since the introduction, in the 2018 vintage, of six new specially selected Pinot Noir clones sourced from Burgundy.

Eleven clones now contribute to our Pinot. Coupled with a superb growing season, increasing vine age (our oldest Pinot vines are 27 years old) and ongoing sensitivity to the nuances of each vintage, we consider our 2020 Pinots to be our best so far.

The mild ripening season for 2020, as with the 2018 and 2019 vintages, gave low yields with quantities unfortunately being down almost one third on recent vintages. The upside of the low yields was small, high quality berries with concentrated, full fruit flavours and exceptional structure. The result is a very fine wine of considerable complexity, depth and finesse.

Tasting note by Ambrose Nock

Wide open aromatically, with lovely cool climate pinot scents and beguiling musky hints transitioning to damp rose petals.

An elegant and graceful palate, with subtle hints of sour cherry and stemmy complexity. Precise tannins and a light touch of high quality oak provide just the right support, enabling the fruit to speak with confidence. And what fruit it is; admirable depth, while retaining a lightness of touch.

With very low yields picked in February after a mild ripening season and early bud burst, this wine confidently follows on from the benchmark 2018 & 2019 releases. What characterizes the 2020 in comparison is, perhaps, an extra level of finesse. An absolute joy.

\$55 each

2019 PICARDY SHIRAZ



Tasting note by Erin Larkin

12 months in French oak. As usual, a bright, vibrant, silky and red fruited display of pomegranate, raspberry and red licorice – a formidable combination. In the mouth the wine is creamy and plush; the texture seems to become finer and more poised with every vintage that goes by. While the fruit is gorgeous – totally red and ripe - the tannins and shape are undoubtedly the standout features here... they create carry and drive through the finish that seems to push the fruit along.

Quite something. Very classy..

\$30 each

2018 PICARDY MERLOT, CABERNET SAUVIGNON, CABERNET FRANC



51% Merlot, 29% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Cabernet Franc

Tasting note by Erin Larkin

Juicy red berries and mid-weight, plump fruit define the introduction to this wine. Sweet cocoa, raspberry, dark chocolate, sea salt, pomegranate and field strawberries are the notes, played in harmony and sync with the exotic market spice (star anise, aniseed and pink peppercorn). While this is succulent, it has a restrained leanness that balances out the fruit; the acidity is couched just behind the teeth and adds a subtle lift and chew to proceedings. This is a wonderful wine, all the more so through the lens of this glorious vintage. Ripe, balanced, supple and harmonious, and sure to offer a comfortable future ahead should that be the path that you choose.

\$30 each

2018 PICARDY MERLIMONT



61% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, 19% Cabernet Franc

Tasting note by Erin Larkin

24 months in seasoned French oak. WA is fortunate, in that there has been a (long) string of excellent vintages, (each carrying its own attributes) over the past couple of decades. 2018 will perhaps go down as one of the greatest among them, for its seemingly unending ability to produce perfectly ripe, powerful and balanced grapes, and therefore wines. This is absolutely no exception to that, and may go down as one of the greatest Merlimonts yet. Soft, zen and perfectly ripe fruit has tannins that seem to be seamlessly countersunk; the acid a current of electricity that brings light, and the oak an invisible structure that holds it all in shape. Again, the texture is the standout here, smooth, rolling... viscous, even.

\$40 each