

20  24

HAMILTON RUSSELL VINEYARDS

## *Pinot noir*

ESTATE WINE OF ORIGIN – Hemel-en-Aarde Valley

Soil: Low-vigour, stony, clay-rich, iron-rich, shale-derived soil

ALCOHOL: 12.75%

ACID: 5.47 g/l

PH: 3.68

RESIDUAL SUGAR: 2.10 g/l

BARREL MATURATION: 100%

BARREL AGEING: 10 Months

1<sup>st</sup> FILL 32% 2<sup>ND</sup> FILL 35% 3<sup>rd</sup> FILL 29% 4<sup>th</sup> FILL 4%

WOODING: 100% 228 litre French Oak Barrels

TIGHT GRAIN: 100%

FRENCH COOPERS: 100% Francois Freres

TOASTING: Hamilton Russell Vineyards Toast

YIELD: 2.18 tons/ha, 13.73 hl/ha

PRODUCTION: 2 330 cases of 12 bottles equivalent

Release date – March 2025



## *Growing Season*

The “once in many lifetimes” Cape Storm of September 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, with extreme wind speeds from the south, significantly compromised flowering, particularly in our Chardonnay, resulting in record low yields. The extremely high rainfall created conditions which meant 2024 was a vintage with unusually high disease pressure right up to the completion of harvest. At 25.05 centigrade for the average maximum temperatures for Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar, 2024 was a touch warmer than the particularly cool 2023. Uneven berry size - not necessarily a bad thing – was another consequence of high wind and rain during flowering. Harvest was earlier than average and 9 days earlier than 2023. The resulting wines have lighter than usual alcohols, with a beautiful fruit purity and balance. Our skilled team nursed wines of great beauty out of a challenging vintage.

## *Wine Style*

Our low-vigour, stony, clay-rich, iron-rich soil, cool maritime mesoclimate, naturally tiny yields of well under 35 hl/ha and our philosophy of expressing our terroir in our wines – give rise to a certain tightness, tannin line and elevated length to balance the richness and generosity of our Pinot noir. Our Pinot noir is not overtly fruity, soft and “sweet” and it generally shows hints of that alluring savoury “primal” character along with a dark, spicy, complex primary fruit perfume.

*All Hamilton Russell Vineyards wines are grown, made, matured, bottled and labelled  
by Hamilton Russell Vineyards on the Hamilton Russell Vineyards Estate*

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