

Bouchard Finlayson

Bouchard Finlayson Galpin Peak Pinot Noir 2020 is a benchmark South African Pinot Noir, offering a harmonious blend of succulent red fruit , warm spices , and an underlying minerality, perfectly embodying the cool terroir of the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley .

BOUCHARD FINLAYSON
A BOUTIQUE VINEYARD



Galpin Peak Pinot Noir 2021

Walker Bay, South Africa

Region and Vineyards

The **Hemel-en-Aarde Valley**, located in South Africa's Walker Bay region, is recognized as one of the finest Pinot Noir-growing regions outside of Burgundy. The valley's unique combination of **cool maritime influences** from the Atlantic Ocean and clay-rich, **decomposed shale soils** creates ideal conditions for Pinot Noir.

Pinot Noir thrives here due to the valley's **cool climate**, which allows for a slow and even ripening process. This enables the grapes to express their terroir fully, producing wines of remarkable elegance, minerality, and balance. The **2020 vintage** experienced a mix of challenges and success, with **ideal flowering conditions** followed by unstable early-year weather. Fortunately, the dry conditions at harvest ensured **healthy fruit** with excellent concentration and structure.

Winemaking

The **Galpin Peak Pinot Noir 2020** is crafted using a combination of traditional and modern winemaking methods to highlight the varietal's delicate yet expressive nature.

The fermentation process incorporated **20% whole grape clusters**, a technique that adds aromatic complexity and texture to the wine. The remaining grapes were destemmed and underwent a careful maceration period of **21 days on skins**. This slow, gentle extraction ensured the preservation of fruit purity and tannin finesse.

After fermentation, the wine was delicately pressed and transferred into **French oak barrels** for **11 months of maturation**. This aging process imparted subtle oak notes and integrated tannins while allowing the wine to maintain its vibrant fruit character. Bottling took place in **June 2021** to capture the wine's freshness and elegance.

Alcohol :13,80 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep ruby red with vibrant clarity.
- **Aroma**: Expressive aromas of **succulent plum**, **clove**, and **nutmeg**, intertwined with hints of earth and subtle kelp-like minerality.
- **Palate**: Concentrated yet refined flavors of **black olive tapenade**, **cranberry tart**, and warm spices, complemented by smooth, velvety tannins. The wine is well-structured, with a lingering, polished finish that hints at its aging potential.

Did You Know?

Pinot Noir is often described as the most **terroir-expressive** grape variety, meaning it reflects the unique characteristics of the vineyard and region where it is grown. The Hemel-en-Aarde Valley's **cool climate and unique soils** have helped position it as one of the leading Pinot Noir regions in the New World.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Slow-braised pork belly** with Emmental and potato gratin, complemented by heirloom carrots. The wine's bright acidity balances the richness of this dish.
- **Smoked duck breast with blackberry jus**: The cranberry tart flavors and spice notes in the wine beautifully enhance the savory and fruity elements of the dish.
- **Seared fresh tuna**: The velvety texture of the wine pairs elegantly with the richness and subtle umami of the tuna.

88

Robert Parker (RP) : 88 Points (2021)

The 2021 Galpin Peak Pinot Noir expresses a distinctive sense of place, with a nose that intertwines fynbos and wild herbs alongside tart cherry and elements reminiscent of the wild South African bush. Medium-bodied, it distinctly showcases the essence of its origin, which dominates the inherent elegance of Pinot Noir. The wine concludes with notes that carry the herbal edge of fynbos. 19,200 bottles were produced after the Pinot Noir underwent an 11-month maturation period in 30% new French oak.