2018 Mermerus Pinot Noir

Bellarine Peninsula, Victoria

Winemaker/Owner: Paul Champion

The 2018 Mermerus Pinot Noir is a single vineyard wine, 100% estate grown and made at our vineyard on the Bellarine Peninsula, which lies between Port Phillip Bay and the Southern Ocean in Victoria.

Fruit was hand-picked from low cropping (yields of 1.8 tonnes per acre) MV6 vines that were planted in 1996. It was open fermented, basket pressed and matured in French oak barriques for 12 months.

The 2018 growing season was characterized by warmer ripening period than 2017 which has produced a fuller bodied wine with complex perfumed ripe red berries and ripe cherry characters, a plushness and fullness on the palate, complete with herbal (a little eucalypt and mint) and some spicy and savoury elements, supported by fine grained, flowing tannins. It has a seductive, soft finish.

While enjoyable now, this wine will reward medium term cellaring, up to 6 years.

Alcohol: 13%

By way of background, Mermerus Vineyard is named after the Victorian sailing ship called ‘Mermerus’ which carried export wool from the port of Geelong to England in the 1800s. The owner/winemaker’s grandfather was a wool merchant, so the name has both a connection to the family, as well as to the local area.