

# ARTISAN SERIES PHAETON PINOT NOIR / MURDOCH HILL / 2019 / ADELAIDE HILLS / AUSTRALIA

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#### **PRODUCER**

Murdoch Hill has been in the Downer family since 1939 but vines were first planted here only in 1998. The farm is on the eastern side of the Adelaide Hills in the Onkaparinga Valley, with 21 hectares of vineyard on shallow red loam soils packed with schist and limestone and up to 516 metres above sea level. Since taking over the winemaking reins in 2012, Michael Downer has taken the farm's wines to similar heights.



### VITICULTURE + VINIFICATION

The wine is sourced from the high altitude Piccadilly Valley of the Adelaide Hills, from vines planted in the mid-nineties, the high elevation and large diurnal shift in temperature provide a very cool environment to produce quality Pinot Noir. The first vineyard is from the town of Piccadilly below Mt Lofty and provides pretty aromatics with a fine line of fruit, while the second vineyard is in Uraidla on a steep east facing slope on a rather shallow hard soils naturally yields very low to provide structure and persistence. The vine are a selection of 114/115 and MV6. Minimal intervention winemaking to ensure the characters of the vineyard shine in the wine, with spontaneous ferments and varying levels of whole bunches in small open fermenting tanks. These traditional practices provide incredible aromatics of spice and clove whilst adding fine-layered texture to the wines. Oak maturation is kept to a minimum with older French oak used for a period of 9-10 months to best express the characters of the vineyard. Old French oak barrels are used.

#### TASTING NOTE

From mature vines in the Piccadilly Valley. An elegant perfumed Pinot, with scents of wild strawberries and cherry, together with a little spice. This supremely elegant, layered yet intense wine finishes with superb fine tannin's on a lovely, long finish. The Phaeton is a sport carriage with typically four extravagantly large wheels used in the 19th century.

## FACTS + STATS

WINEMAKER	MICHAEL DOWNER
VARIETIES	100% PINOT NOIR
APPELLATION	ADELAIDE HILLS
CLOSURE	SCREW TOP
ORGANIC	NO
BIODYNAMIC	NO
VEGAN	YES
VEGETARIAN	YES
CASE SIZE	6

