

CRYSTALLUM

Crystallum, `Peter Max` Pinot Noir 2015

PRODUCER

This small winery was established in 2007 by brothers Peter-Allan and Andrew Finlayson. Their father, Peter, was a pioneer in the production of cool climate Chardonnay and Pinot Noir at Bouchard Finlayson, so after university it seemed the natural thing for the boys to return home and source some fruit from the Hemel-en-Aarde valley to start their own label.

Crystallum is now one of the most highly regarded wineries in South Africa. Yet the Finlaysons are determined to make even better wines. Peter-Allan has sourced fruit from some new vineyards, while winemaking has evolved. All the wines are now wild fermented, and new oak has been reduced to help the bright fruit shine through.

VINEYARDS

The 2015 Peter Max Pinot Noir is crafted from fruit sourced from four vineyards, three in the Hemel en Aarde area of Walker Bay and a new vineyard on a high altitude, inland site. The vineyards form the perfect building blocks to reflect the 2015 vintage.

VINTAGE

2015 was an excellent vintage. A very cold and wet winter was followed by a moderate and dry summer. This permitted advanced flavour development at low sugar levels.

VINIFICATION

Fruit was hand picked and delivered to the cellar in small crates. Approximately 70% of the grapes were de-stemmed and added to the remainder, which were left as whole clusters. The temperature of the must was then lowered for a few days, after which the tank was allowed to warm up for fermentation to begin. This fermentation regime keeps extraction to a minimum, while allowing for a slow, extended maceration period of four weeks. No commercial yeasts were used for fermentation. The wine remained in 228 litre, lightly toasted French oak barrels for 10 months, 15% of which was new. The wine was bottled after a light filtration.

TASTING NOTES

A wonderfully elegant and perfumed Pinot. The nose is floral and fragrant, with strawberry tea and sweet spice dominant. The palate offers plenty of fruit and texture, while maintaining a wonderful vibrancy and freshness. Delicious.



VINTAGE INFORMATION

Vintage	2015
Region	Walker Bay, Hemel-en Aarde, Cape South Coast
Grape Varieties	100% Pinot Noir
Winemaker	Peter-Allan Finlayson
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	14%
Bottle Sizes	75cl, 75cl