



ROCKY POINT

Reviews: Rocky Point Pinot Noir

2016 Vintage

Delicious young but ageworthy, this second-tier label from Prophet's Rock was hand-picked and French oak-aged. Deeply coloured, it is fresh, mouthfilling (13.5% alc/vol) and supple, with rich, ripe, plummy, gently spicy flavours, savoury notes adding complexity and good harmony.

Michael Cooper – The Listner (4 stars. August 2017).

“Full, dark, deep, black-red colour with youthful purple hues. This has a firmly concentrated, densely packed nose of restrained, but ripe black cherry and berry fruits with nuances of plums, thyme herbs and aromatic black minerals. Medium-full bodied, the palate has rich, luscious and vibrant fruit flavours of ripe black cherries and berries with hints of plums, herbs and hints of liquorice. The fruit is enlivened by fresh, lacy acidity providing energy and tension, and supported by fine-grained balancing tannins. The wine flows along a fine-textured line with good vitality, leading to an elegantly concentrated, lingering finish of black fruits. This is a rich and stylishly luscious, black-fruited Pinot Noir with fresh acidity and fine-grained structure with an elegantly concentrated line. Match with lamb, beef and venison over the next 5-6+ years. Pinot Noir fruit predominantly from the ‘Rocky Point’ vineyard, hand-picked, fully destemmed and indigenous yeast fermented to 13.5% alc., the wine aged 10 months in 15% new French oak.”

Raymond Chan (4 stars / 18+ points. May 2017)

A fabulous pinot from the Bendigo district, the beautifully fragrant bouquet shows red/black cherry, cranberry, floral and subtle spice aromas, leading to a juicy palate that offers pristine fruit flavours and fine texture, wonderfully complemented by savoury nuances and polished tannins. Delightfully attractive. At its best: now to 2020. \$30.00. www.prophetsrock.co.nz. May 2017.

Wine Orbit. (93 points. May 2017)

2016 Vintage Awards

New World Wine Awards 2017

Silver Medal



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2015 Vintage

Medium-bodied, aromatic, juicy and fresh with spiced cherries and raspberries, a touch of zest, firm chalky tannins, smoky polished cedar and a waft of gunsmoke.

NZ International Wine Show 2016 - Gold medal

This is immediately appealing on the nose displaying dark cherry, plum, floral and spice characters with a touch of game complexity. The palate is succulent and beautifully weighted, and offers excellent fruit purity and silky texture, wonderfully framed by polished tannins. Flavourful and satisfying, while showing pinot elegance and style. At its best: now to 2020

Wine Orbit. (93 points. June 2016)

The 'Rocky Point' reflects the company's schist-soiled 'Rocky Point' vineyard, lower in altitude, but also in Bendigo. Here, I review the new release Rocky Point Pinot Noir 2015. It may be the best released to date.

Very dark, deep, even ruby-red colour with youthful purple hues. This has a firm, tightly bound nose with aromas of black berried and black cherry fruit, along with concentrated notes of liquorice, iron-earth and minerals, unfolding subtle dark –red and violet florals and dark herbs. Medium-bodied, the palate features juicy and sweet flavours of black cherries, blackberries and succulent notes of liquorice that reveal iron-earth minerals and dark thyme herbs. The fruit is underlined by fine, grainy tannin extraction, and the palate has linearity. Soft, integrated acidity lends a degree of accessibility and the wine carries to a long, dry, fine-textured finish. This is a rich and sweet black fruited Pinot Noir with liquorice and mineral notes, and a firm, concentrated and linear flow. Match with venison and game meat dishes over the next 4-5 years.

Raymond Chan (4 stars / 18+ points. June 2016)

Youthful, fruity and intriguing bouquet of crushed raspberry and black cherry fruit aromas, crushed rock adding a firm mineral layer; mild to moderate oak scents and complexity. On the palate – quite fruity with a dry finish; flavours of red berry fruit return, youthful slightly firm tannins and medium* acidity providing a tense youthful structure. Uber food friendly style & well made as usual for this producer.

Cameron Douglas MS (87 points. July 2015)

2015 Vintage Awards

Air New Zealand Wine Awards 2016

New Zealand International Wine Show 2016

New World Wine Awards 2016

Gold Medal

Gold Medal

Silver Medal



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2014 Vintage

Medium-bodied, supple and appealing with a lovely fine-grained texture. Aromatic with a heady perfume of violets and cherries. Similar characteristics on the palate with the addition of spice/anise and subtle nutty oak. Appealing now, but with potential

Gourmet Wine Traveller (94 points. August/ September 2016)

A fresh, gentle and velvety style, with truffle, scented cherry, red berry and a hint of coffee.

International Wine Challenge 2016 (Silver Medal. November 2015)

Appealingly aromatic Pinot Noir, with a heady perfume and cherries that lead to similar characteristics on the palate with the addition of spice, anise and subtle nutty oak. A medium-bodied, supple and appealing wine with a lovely fine-grained texture. Appealing now but with potential. Great value

Bob Campbell MW (Score 94/100, March 2016)

Ranked 20/70 of all Central Otago Pinot Noir tasted from 2014 vintage

Dark ruby-red colour with youthful purple hues, lighter on the rim. The nose is slender and tightly bound in presentation with aromas of dark red cherry fruit along with nuances of liquorice, thyme herbs, earth and mineral elements. The aromatics grow in depth and concentration with aeration. Medium-full bodied, the palate is elegant in proportion with bright, lively and vibrant dark red cherry fruit flavours expressed with purity and clarity. Nuances of herbs and minerals emerge to lend detail and interest. The mouthfeel is lively with lacy acidity and a fine line of tannin guiding the wine to a light, fruit-focused finish. This is an elegant, refreshingly lively Pinot Noir with red cherry fruit and a fine-textured line. Serve with firm-fleshed seafood, poultry, pork and antipasto over the next 4+ years.

Raymond Chan (Score 4 stars. November 2015)

This is beautifully ripe and fragrant on the nose displaying red/black cherry, mixed spice, game and subtle dried herb characters. The palate shows excellent fruit purity as well as elegant savoury undertones, backed by plenty of fine tannins. Delightfully attractive and flavoursome. Lovely poise and harmony, and offers excellent drinking already. At its best: now to 2020

Wine Orbit (Score 93/100, 5 stars. October 2015)

Rocky Point is crafted by internationally experienced NZ winemaker Paul Pujol who has presided over all Prophets Rock wines since returning home from his travels circa 2008. Their Bendigo vineyards consistently yield fruit with dense, dark flavour, superb tannins and benchmark mineral freshness on display in this 2014 release. Hand-picked fruit, indigenous ferment and use of quality French barrels are central to this Pinot that entirely over delivers for the price. **SMELLS:** Black cherry, thyme underpinned with complex floral and smoky aromas. **TASTES:** Dense, charming, sweet Otago black cherry fruit with an attractive tangy plum infusion with hints of liquorice. Nicely contrasted by complex notes of wild thyme, nutmeg/cinnamon, and spicy oak with an endearing suggestion of Black Forest Gateaux attack on the finish. It has the weight and complexity to drink well through 2020+

Fine Wine Delivery Company Tasting Panel (December 2015)

2014 Vintage Awards

International Wine Challenge 2016

Silver Medal

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2013 Vintage

Attractive scents of baking spices and ripe cherries mark the nose and palate of this medium-bodied wine. It's silky from start to finish, offering enough complex floral and spice notes to make it worthy of repeat sips. Drink now-2020

Wine Enthusiast Best of Year 2016 (91/100 points. October 2016)

Red cherry, sweet cherry, deep ripe raspberry, dark berry, stewed berry, sweet compote, poblano pepper, truffle, green herbs, sage, herb, mint, chocolate, wet leather, mineral, dusty earth, earthy. Palate: Sweet cherry, cherry, cranberry, dark berries, ripe sweet fruit, mint, mineral, oaky, gripping tannins, soft, silky, gentle. Finish: Flavorful, mouth-watering, soft, balanced.

Fifty Best New Zealand Pinot Noir 2016. (Gold Medal. May 2016)

Elegant, fresh, aromatic notes of thyme, cypress and cedar are a terrific complement to the wild raspberry and ripe cherry flavors. Plush in texture, this offers plenty of spice, herb and earth accents on the long, lingering finish. Drink now through 2030

Wine Spectator (Score 91. September 2015)

This is a well-made, well-priced savoury, spicy pinot from Bendigo's Prophet's Rock. With dark cherry and a lovely sappy freshness on the palate, it's a mouthwatering match for pan-fried duck breast with beetroot and cranberry salsa.

Emma Jenkins MW (Australian Women's Weekly voted Top Value. July 2015)

A fine, open, aromatic and particularly floral version of pinot noir from Bendigo in Central Otago, displaying the finesse and elegance one would hope for from the variety in this premium price category. The palate is delicate and dusty, finely-textured, with excellent length. Fine wine, best 2016-2025

WineAlign.com (91/100, Value Rating: **1/2. April 2015)

This is a beauty, strutting its stuff with aromas of violets, soft red fruits and smooth as velvet in the mouth. Black currant and black cherry bathe the palate garnished with baking spice replaying on the long finish and aftertaste. There's deft balance, well-integrated oak, purity of fruit, good structure and drink-me-now charm. Pricey, but if you shop in the forty-dollar bin, it's well worth purchasing a bottle or two.

Julie Stock, Winecurrent.com (4.5 stars. April 28th, 2015)

A fine, open, aromatic and particularly floral version of pinot noir from Bendigo in Central Otago, displaying the finesse and elegance one would hope for from the variety in this premium price category. The palate is delicate and dusty, finely-textured, with excellent length. Fine wine, best 2016-2025

David Lawrason (April 2015)

The Central Otago region also produces some eclectic pinots from vineyards that can verge on such rockiness that they look hydroponic. The Rocky Point 2013 Pinot Noir dishes up rich plum, dense black fruits and power. Think Pinot Noir on steroids.

Gord Stimmell, www.thestar.com (April 2015)



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From Prophet's Rock, the 2013 (3.5*) was hand-picked at Bendigo and matured for eight months in French oak casks. Deep ruby, it is mouthfilling, fresh and vibrantly fruity, with very good depth of cherry, plum and slight nut flavours.

Michael Coopers Buyers Guide 2015 (3.5 Stars, November 2014)

Once again, this reliable label delivers quality at affordable price. The wine shows wonderful pristine fruit aromas of red/black cherry and plum together with hints of floral and roasted nuts. It's ripe and silky on the palate with excellent fruit weight, beautifully supported by fine tannins. The wine is immediately appealing but it should develop gracefully too. At its best: now to 2018.

Wine Orbit (Score 90/100, 4.5 stars. June 2014)

Even, dark ruby-red colour, with youthful purple hues. The nose is elegant and quite restrained, with aromas of ripe, dark raspberry fruit infused with subtle dusty, black mineral notes, expressed with a steely freshness. Medium-bodied and somewhat shy, this has a sweet core of black cherry and raspberry fruit flavours along with subtle liquorice and earthy, mineral elements. The palate has a slippery flow, the energy and tension enhanced by lacy acidity. Fine grainy tannins are integral with the fruit, and the palate leads to a light, aromatic, primary, dark cherry-fruited finish with juicy sweetness. This is a shy, youthfully bound Pinot Noir with lacy acid and structure to see it unfold over the next 4+ years

Raymond Chan (Score 16.5/20, 3 stars. July 2014)

2013 Vintage Awards

Fifty Best New Zealand Pinot Noirs 2016	Gold Medal
TexSom International Wine Awards 2016	Silver Medal
New World Wine Awards 2015	Silver Medal
New Zealand International Wine Show 2014	Silver Medal
Romeo Bragato Wine Awards 2014	Pure Silver

2012 Vintage

Very dark, black-hued purple-red colour, lighter edged and youthful in appearance. This has a full and voluminous nose with aromatic dark red berry fruits and black plums with lifted violet florals and dark herbs. Medium-full bodied, dry and grainy tannins feature on the palate with fresh, racy acidity. The firm mouthfeel carries the bright red berry fruit flavours through the palate line with some alcohol power in support. This has elegance with good weight, and an array of black fruits and dried herbs unfolds, flowing to a dry, firm finish. This is an aromatic, dark-fruited Pinot Noir with grainy and firm textures. Serve with barbecued red meats over the next 4+ years.

Raymond Chan (Score 17.5/20, 4 stars. March 2014)

The 2012 vintage (4*) is perfumed and generous, with vibrant cherry/plum flavours, finely integrated oak and excellent depth and harmony.

Michael Coopers Buyers Guide 2015 (4 Stars, November 2014)



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This is really good. The fragrant bouquet shows dark cherry, plum, game and floral with a hint of cedar complexity. It's succulent and concentrated on the palate with purity and intensity, leading to a superbly long velvety finish. The wine combines fruit richness with subtle savoury notes, making it immensely appealing. At its best: now to 2017.

Wine Orbit (Score 93/100, 5 stars. March 2014)

2012 Vintage Awards

Easter Show Wine Awards 2014

Silver Medal March 2014

Air New Zealand Wine Awards 2013

Pure Silver November 2013

2011 Vintage

The second label of Prophet's Rock. 100% 'Bendigo' vineyard fruit fermented to 14.0% alc., the wine aged 12 months in French oak barriques, 20% new. Winemaker is Paul Pujol. Very deep, dark, purple-hued black-red colour, lighter on rim. Softly concentrated aromas of black berry and plum fruit show with good depth, and layers of minerals graphite, violets and liquorice emerge in the glass. Medium-full bodied, this is densely packed with flavours of black berry fruits along with liquorice and plum. The wine has a dry expression of fruitiness, with moderate acidity, and is softly textured with supple tannins and a rounded mouthfeel. This has good presence and weight, and the palate carries through to a moderately sustained finish of black fruits. This is a softly dense, black-fruited Pinot Noir with the dryness and rounded mouthfeel to match casseroles and slow-cooked meats over the next 4-5+ years.

Raymond Chan (Score 17.5/20, 4 stars. June 2012)

Bright dark cherry flavours with hints of plum and berry plus an influence of toasty oak. Fine tannins give a slightly grainy texture and pleasantly drying finish. Supple and appealing Pinot Noir representing excellent value at this price.

Bob Campbell, MW (Score 85/100. July 2012)

2010 Vintage

This seriously good second label pinot from Prophet's Rock displays more finesse than many wineries' top examples, with rich, juicy morello cherry fruit seasoned with exotic spice and underpinned by some subtle toasty oak

NZ Herald: I'm dreaming of a Wine Christmas. (December 2011)