

# NEWTON JOHNSON FAMILY WALKER BAY PINOT NOIR 2020



## WINE INTRODUCTION

Offering a lively introduction to the premium quality and unique characteristics of this grape variety in our area, namely the Upper Hemel-en-Aarde Valley. Made from younger vines and on the lower slopes of the well appointed Newton Johnson farm. The Walker Bay Pinot Noir shows a more flirtatious and fruit assertive character.

## WINEMAKING NOTE

Our Walker Bay Pinot Noir is the shadow of our best vineyards, bearing perhaps not the same gravitas, but a level of quality and personality from Pinot Noir that is typically the Upper Hemel-en-Aarde Valley. It is an Estate wine made from younger vines and vineyards on the lower slopes. Over a decade of farming these vineyards have guided us in terms of their individual strengths and limitations. The younger vines are from vineyards that could in time provide the best quality of all, however at this stage they are more preoccupied with a flirtatious, fruit assertive character with more complexity to come. The vineyards on the lower slopes grow with a little more vigour as their accessibility to water and nutrients in the soil becomes easier. Depth of flavour accumulates as you move up the slope with the decomposed Granite based soils playing the common thread between all the vineyards. The grapes are packed in to large -surface area crates to limit pressure on the bunches. The day's harvest is cooled down overnight to 8°C in the winery's refrigerated cold room. The bunches are sorted on a conveyor, destemmed, and fall directly to the fermenter. Some parcels also contain a discretionary percentage of whole bunches together with their stems. Cold maceration ensues for 4 to 6 days at 8 to 10°C. All parcels are fermented with indigenous yeasts, and only pi gea ge (punching down) applied for extraction. The wine spends approximately 15 days on the skins before pressing. After pressing the wine is racked and left to complete its malolactic 'fermentation' and maturation in barrel. Matured for 11 months in 228L and 500L barrels produced in Burgundy and custom made for the various vineyards. Tighter grained oak is preferred for subtle flavour, with longer seasoning and slower, lower temperature toasting. New oak comprises 19%. The wine is racked to stainless steel tanks for another 6 months of élevage. No fining or filtration before bottling.

## APPEARANCE, AROMA AND TASTING NOTE

Condensed flavours elevated by this vineyard's rapier-like freshness. Ripe limes and waxy honeycomb are illuminated by sharp ginger and lemon zest, with an airy scent of jasmine. Succulent citrus fruit in the mouth, ladled with lees texture and buttery brioche, narrowing to a racy, lively finish.

## WINE INFORMATION

Country:	South Africa
Region:	Upper Hemel-en-Aarde
Wine Type:	Red Wine
Producer:	Newton Johnson Family
Wine Name:	Walker Bay Pinot Noir
Vintage:	2020
Principle Grape (%):	Pinot Noir (100)
ABV (%):	13.50%
Acid (g/L):	5.70
pH:	3.53
Bottle Size:	75cl
Case/Pack Size:	6x75cl