



TASTING NOTE

2017 'OLD VINE' PINOT MEUNIER

The Millers Burgundy vineyard, first planted in 1867, is made up of mostly Pinot Meunier and a little Pinot Noir. This unique vineyard block is treated with meticulous care and in good vintages this block is made into a 'single block' wine. The grapes are handpicked and hand sorted, hand plunged in open vats and aged in French oak barrels.

The Best's Old Vine Pinot Meunier is the ultimate wine that speaks of place and it has a cult following, particularly in the wine community and the trade where people understand how rare this varietal planting is. This decade, Best's Great Western 'Old Vine' Pinot Meunier has been made in 2005, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2016 and 2017. In other years the fruit goes into the Best's Great Western "Young Vine" Pinot Meunier or the Pinot Meunier, Pinot Noir Blend.

Technical Details

Region	Great Western, Victoria
Grape Variety	Pinot Meunier
Alcohol	12.5%
Winemaker	Justin Purser

Tasting Notes

Colour	Deep crimson with a ruby hue.
Bouquet	Dried rose petal and culinary spices form part of a deep scented aroma.
Palate	Glacé cherries with savoury spicy notes bond in a harmonious marriage with the lingering velvet structure. Try it with dried morel mushrooms rehydrated in melted Irish butter, tossed with a dash of cream and homemade pappardelle pasta.
Cellaring	This wine is beginning to reveal its charms, yet the old vines of Pinot Meunier typically produce wines that develop complexity yet retain their freshness for 20 years or more.
Vintage	Fantastic winter rains set the vineyards up for ideal spring growing conditions that saw great flowering and fruit set. The mild summer conditions and long ripening period (with some timely small rain events) ensured that the fruit matured in near perfect conditions for harvest. A vintage that has more resemblance to those of the 80s and 90s than the vintages of this century.





AWARDS AND REVIEWS

Mike Bennie - Delicious

Oh, for a time machine to ask Henry Best what he liked about pinot meunier to plant it in 1868 in his vineyard in Great Western. Wonderful that it's survived to make this wine today.

It's not a wine to stretch the imagination but it has immediate charm. Glossy texture, light weight yet flavoursome, highly perfumed and set to white strawberry, vanilla, briary notes and faint white pepper, there's drinkability in spades despite it feeling like a relatively simple wine. It's long in flavour, smooth and balanced well (texture is glorious), with a refreshing, gently bitter twist in its extended flavours. Enthusiasts and collectors will be well served.

Rated : 92 Points

Drink : 2018 - 2026+

James Halliday – Weekend Australian

This is liquid history from the oldest Pinot Meunier vines in the world. Add in a very good vintage and sure hands in the winery, and you would likely buy it just for its quality. Light but bright crimson, its length is prodigious, its scented bouquet a siren call, the palate silk.

12.5% Alc; screwcap

98 Points; drink to 2037

James Halliday 2019 Wine Companion

I feel a compulsion to swallow some of a wine I taste in the normal 70 or so wines sampled per day for the Wine companion, but I plead guilty here. Its unique 150+ years of history makes it impossible for this wine to be made anywhere else in the world. Even if you were just tasting history it would have its call, but when you add in a very good vintage and sure hands in the winery you would likely buy it just for its quality. Light but bright crimson, its length is prodigious, its scented bouquet a siren call, the palate silk. **Rating 98 points Drink 2037**