

Ernst Gouws & Co, Western Cape, Pinot Noir 2017



A delicately flavoured Pinot Noir with aromas of red plum complemented by savoury and smoky notes through to a fresh and leafy finish.

Producer Note

Ernst & Gouws is a family owned business in the heart of Stellenbosch, South Africa. Synonymous with producing quality South African wines which are rich in heritage, tradition and driven by a profound passion for wine and family values. In 1975 a dapper and enthusiastic Ernst travelled to Europe, under his father's instructions not to return to South Africa until he had mastered the art of winemaking. During his voyage of discovery to France and Germany he missed his childhood sweetheart, Gwenda and invited her to visit. After falling madly in love they decided to marry there and then. Forty years later, three children and many Gouws grandchildren later, Ernst and Gwenda still run the family business alongside their three children, Ezanne, Ernst Jnr and Inke.

Vintage

2017 experienced extreme drought conditions, the worst in 100 years. These conditions brought about a small crop of small, healthy berries that were intensely concentrated in colour and fruit flavours. The proximity of the Atlantic Ocean had a particularly beneficial effect this year.

Vineyard

Ernst subscribes to the French philosophy that the quality of the grape is inextricably linked to the "terroir", so he travels to various regions throughout the Western Cape and handpicks his grapes in the areas where they naturally grow at their very best. The Pinot Noir grapes are grown on the West Coast, just three miles from the sea, where the vineyard overlooks the Atlantic Ocean. The revitalising sea-breezes create balancing freshness in the grapes, which is showcased in this beautifully composed Pinot Noir.

Winemaking

The grapes were hand-picked at optimal maturity. Fermentation took place in stainless steel tanks with gentle pump-overs extracting flavour, aromatics and tannins. The wine went through malolactic fermentation in tank. The wine was matured for 18 months in a selection of new and second fill French oak barrels. The wine was clarified by cross-flow filtration.

Tasting Note

With layers of flavour, vibrant aromas of red cherry, dark chocolate and deep plum are enlivened by a deft use of oak, imparting spicy notes of clove, cinnamon and spice.

Grape

Pinot Noir 100%



Winemaker:	Ernst Gouws
Region:	Western Cape
Sub region:	Western Cape
Country:	South Africa
Alcohol:	14%
Body Value:	B (A is light, E is full bodied)
Residual Sugar:	2
Contains Sulphites:	Yes
Vegetarian/Vegan:	Yes/Yes
Milk/Eggs:	No/No
Organic/Biodynamic	No/No
Product Code:	5586317A
Case unit of measure:	6X75CL
Formats Available:	75cl
Closure:	Diam