



## 2017 MADAM SASS CENTRAL OTAGO PINOT NOIR

Madam Sass lived her life with daring indulgence. She is our homage to heroines from Central Otago's gold rush era; when gutsy women held little regard for the establishment and relished taking risks.



### THE PLACE

Bendigo is renowned for vibrant dark fruit flavours and finely tuned acidity. Formed from glaciers grinding schist rocks to smaller gravels and finer particles, the soil is rich in minerals, free draining and perfect for growing exceptional Pinot Noir. Literally named after a miner's original gold claim, the Claim 431 Vineyard in Bendigo sits firmly at the heart of New Zealand's illustrious gold rush history.

### THE TASTE

This enticing Pinot Noir is full of attitude, style and extravagance. Decadent blackberry and sweet dark cherry aromas are delivered with opulence, chalky tannins and complex oak spice.

### THE VINTAGE

Everyone loves a long, hot summer; particularly when it comes to growing Central Otago Pinot Noir. The 2017 vintage produced luscious, fleshy grapes with beautiful healthy skins of a deep blue, and aromas of rich cherry and ripe plum. An outstanding start for this seriously sassy Pinot Noir. After careful picking, which ensured the berries remained intact, the grapes were delivered to the winery, cold soaked, and then fermented with wild and cultured yeasts. Individual batches were then carefully hand-plunged to extract vibrant colour, structure and flavour. To add texture and longevity, a must for any upstanding Pinot Noir, the wine was stored in oak barrels for around 8 months.



SERIOUSLY  
SASSY 