



**RED CLAW**  
MORNINGTON PENINSULA



## **RED CLAW PINOT NOIR 2009**

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| VARIETY:            | Pinot Noir           |
| REGION:             | Mornington Peninsula |
| ALCOHOL:            | 13.5%                |
| RESIDUAL SUGAR:     | 0.2 g/L              |
| TITRATABLE ACIDITY: | 5.7 g/L              |
| HARVEST DATES:      | March 2009           |

### **VINEYARDS & WINEMAKING**

#### **VINTAGE**

Average winter rains lead to good bud break and excellent early season growth. The drought returned in spring with below average rainfall, but with access to recycled water for irrigation the dry period was not a concern and good, healthy growth continued through December and early January.

An overwhelming heatwave struck between 28-30 January and extreme temperatures returned on 7 February. Fortunately, with plenty of water available we immediately implemented a full program of irrigation. The effect of the heat was significant, however rigorous hand selection was implemented in the vineyard to ensure that only the best fruit was delivered to the winery – this resulted in a 30% loss on forecasted crop levels. Our meticulous approach allowed us to identify the blocks that delivered excellent quality, resulting in delicate and complex fruit flavours and lower alcohols in the wines.

#### **WINEMAKER'S NOTES**

Handpicked and carefully destemmed into open fermenters the wine underwent three days of cold soaking to ensure even and thorough extraction. On skins for 14 days, after which it was transferred into French oak barrels for 9 months completing malolactic fermentation and prepared for bottling in December 2009.

Deep crimson in colour. Rich, fragrant aromas are dominated by cherry and dark berry fruits complemented by a touch of spice and underlying French oak. The long, silky palate has a lovely soft and velvety texture, with powerful flavours of dark red fruits and a finely poised finish.

*Winemaker – Tom Carson*