

HAMILTON RUSSELL VINEYARDS Pinot Noir 2019

90 POINTS

Before I begin my tasting note, I'd like to quickly focus on what Hamilton Russell has written on the back of their 2019 Pinot Noir label. While wildfires are not an uncommon occurrence for South Africa, it is refreshing to see such high integrity and transparency as Hamilton Russell has displayed in a challenging situation. Bottled as Walker Bay wine of origin, they had to reject almost all of their Pinot Noir vineyard fruit due to a wildfire. The estate stands to gain more trust and brand loyalty from their followers from the decision to be completely open and transparent about what happened to them and their Pinot Noir in 2019. I wish more of the world were as honest and transparent as Hamilton Russell has demonstrated to every consumer of this vintage. I don't know everything there is to know about building brand loyalty, but I am confident that the first chapter of that playbook begins with what Hamilton Russell has written on the back of this particular bottling.

About Wine Advocate

Robert Parker founded his bi-monthly newsletter, The Wine Advocate, in 1978. Since then he has come to be called "the most influential wine writer in the world today." In 2001 he launched eRobertParker.com. His team of Wine Advocates now comprehensively covers the world of fine wines in a way that no one person can any longer do. Parker continues to review the great wines of Bordeaux and Northern California and acts as a critic-at-large conducting vertical tastings and horizontal tastings of older vintages of California and elsewhere.



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