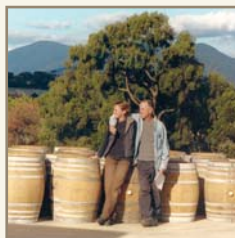


# GIANT STEPS

VIGNERONS

YARRA VALLEY AUSTRALIA



## 2006 GIANT STEPS SEXTON VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

**WINEMAKER:** Phil Sexton & Steve Flamsteed

**REGION:** Yarra Valley, Victoria

**VARIETALS:** Pinot Noir

**MATURATION:** 11 months in 40% new French oak

**ALCOHOL:** 13.5% alc/vol

### VINTAGE NOTES:

Following a reasonably warm summer, fruit was picked with excellent concentration and good phenological ripeness, with vines cropped at 2 tons/ac.

### WINEMAKING:

Fruit was handpicked to 300kg crates and chilled before being destemmed, but not crushed, to small, open fermenters. A 5-day cold soak was followed by an 8-day ferment with 100% indigenous yeast and regular hand-plunging. After ferment the skins were tipped into an airbag press and the wine was racked off gross lees to oak for malolactic fermentation. The barriques employed were 100% French - 40% new, 30% 1-year-old and 30% older. Specific coopers selected include Taransaud, D&J, Mercurey, Francios Freres, and Sirugue.

### TASTING NOTES:

The 2006 Pinot Noir leads with a nose of wild blackberries, forest floor and candied cherry, complexed by dried mushrooms and mulberry bush. An equally expressive palate offers braised plums, cinnamon sticks and sour cherries, amongst similar earthy notes of wild mushrooms. Focused and refined, the tannins offer firm yet giving structure.

### CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

93 points - James Halliday, 89+ points - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

### ABOUT GIANT STEPS:

Giant Steps was established in 1998 in the cool-climate Yarra Valley region by wine industry veteran Phil Sexton. With the aim of creating single vineyard wines reflecting a unique sense of place, the 75 acre vineyard was hand-planted on the gravelly, north facing slopes of the Warramate Ranges. A decade later, the wines are renowned for offering length rather than breadth, finesse rather than largesse, and above all, fruit rather than artifact.



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