



STONIER PINOT TASTING TODAY IN HONG KONG

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To sip or to SIPNOT, that is the question

Australian Pinot patriots Stonier are hosting their Stonier International Pinot Noir Tasting (SIPNOT) today in Hong Kong. The tasting, part of a veritable world tour of Pinot tastings, will feature an impressive lineup of pinots.

“The Stonier International Pinot Noir Tasting is a tasting and celebration of Pinot Noirs from around the world,” the tasting's websites.

Today's tasting will follow the standard SIPNOT format: groups of seven led by a Pinot specialist will taste 12 wines, drinking them in two brackets of six. Wines within the two brackets will be compared to each other. A short intermission will take place the two brackets. According to the event's website, Jeannie Cho Lee, MW, will be on hand for today's tasting as well as Stonier winemaker Mike Symons.



Today's tasting marks the first time in which a SIPNOT event has taken place in Hong Kong. A quartet of Australian pinots will tickle the palates of tasters, including one offering each from the well known Pinot regions of Tasmania, Mornington and Yarra.

Freycinet's 2012 Pinot Noir will be the Tasmanian entry in the tasting. “The vibrant palate is smooth and even with plenty of ripe berry and plum flavours intermingled with sweet oak nuances, fine savoury tannins and the all important velvety mouthfeel,” Freycinet's website says. “Extra mellow textures and gamey, intriguing forest floor characteristics.”

The tasting will feature four wines from Burgundy – three Grand Cru and one Premier Cru.

One Chilean wine will be tasted, a 2012 Ocio Pinot Noir from Valle de Casablanca's Cono Sur winery. The 2012 Ocio “has a personality of its own,” the organic winery's website says.

“Quite appealing with its rich, deep red color, this wine has a complex and developed nose that is governed by sweet wild fruit aromas, where notes of cherries and berries are enhanced by slight toasty hints,” Cono Sur says. “It's tasteful, with soft tannins and an excellent structure.”

New Zealand's 2012 Felton Road Block 5, the United States' 2011 Roco Marsh Estate Vineyard and Germany's 2011 Bernhard Huber, Schlossberg, Spätburgunder Grosses Gewächs round the rest of the wines which will be tasted today.

The Hong Kong tasting comes on the heels of the October 20 SIPNOT tasting in Melbourne. The tasting tour is in its 15th, having also made appearances in Sydney and London.

Photo Credit: SIPNOT