

Alc 13.9% **pH** 3.68 **TA** 5.16 g/l

SEASON SUMMARY

Our friendship with Mother Nature is always on her terms, and this year was no exception. In her benevolence, she decided to grant near-perfect conditions in the vineyards. It was a dry but not particularly hot year in Marlborough, which let the fruit mature with little stress on the vines.

The dry weather was also a godsend for our vineyard team. Despite a rainy December, there was very little disease pressure to worry about after Christmas. The crew undertook canopy work to let the bunches soak up the sun. The result? Full-flavoured, concentrated and complex fruit.

The harvest, under the cloud of COVID-19, was a challenge. But thanks to sunny days and cool nights there was plenty of time to pick the fruit at the perfect maturity.

The Pinot Noir harvest commenced on March 17th and was completed on April 5th.

KEY VINEYARDS

Our Pinot Noir comes from the cool clay soils and rolling, north-facing slopes of Marlborough's Southern Valleys region. The aged alluvial gravels and dense clay subsoils balance drainage and water availability to yield the region's best Pinot Noir grapes.

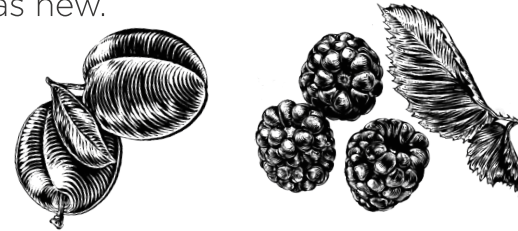
With over 30 years of experience



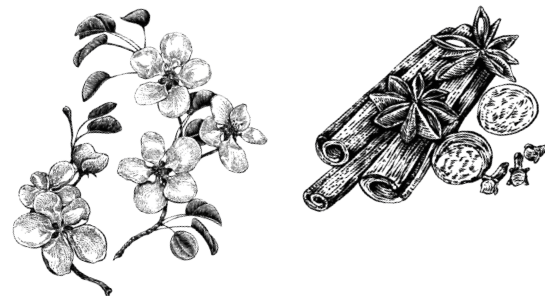
with the variety in this region, our sites are selected carefully and each vineyard tended with care. The vines are trained with vertical shoot positioning to make the most of the sunlight. The key vineyards for this variety are Mustang, Delta, and Barracks.

WINEMAKING & BLENDING

The Pinot Noir fruit was gravity-fed into the open topped fermentation tanks, with 7% whole-bunch inclusion. The skins were gently plunged, with an average of 21 days' skin contact, and then 100% of the wine underwent malolactic fermentation. After fermentation the wines were matured in French oak for 11 months, of which 30% was new.



NOSE: The 2020 Pinot Noir is fragrant, appealing and aromatic. Rose petals, dark cherries and blackberries fill the nose.



PALATE: On the palate, a core of rounded bramble fruit, ripe boysenberry and wild strawberry is unpinned by silky tannins and fine acidity. A concentrated yet elegant wine.



Pinot Noir
2020