

SEASON SUMMARY

Our vineyard crews had their work cut out for them this year. Budburst came early across the region, while the cold nights and frosts in September and October meant very early mornings for the crew. Fortunately, the frost protection we have on most of our vineyard sites kept the grapes safe.

Of course, Mother Nature rarely does things by halves. The challenging conditions continued: unsettled weather during the December flowering period meant good soil conditions but significant reductions in crop levels.

But while she can be stern, Mother Nature can be equally generous - even in the same season. The growing period for 2021 was a continuous thread of beautifully warm, dry conditions, which gave us very little disease pressure to worry about. And, as is often the case, the lower yields had a significant upside: fantastic fruit. The perfect temperatures meant that acid levels remained high, with the grapes developing their full flavour on the vine

KEY VINEYARDS

This Syrah comes from a tiny block of our Staete Landt vineyard in Central Wairau, within the area of Marlborough known as the "Golden Mile". The site is very warm, with stony, free-draining soils that make it ideal for growing this Rhône variety.

WINEMAKING & BLENDING

Following extensive crop thinning and leaf plucking in the vineyard, the fruit entered the winery with perfect maturity. The grapes were destemmed and cold-soaked for five days ahead of fermentation. Following 21 days on skins with all plunging carried out by hand, the wine was then aged in barrel for 12 months and in stainless steel for 18 months.

Alc	pH	TA
13.41%	3.71	5.77g/l

NOSE

Aromatic and attractive on the nose, the Founders' Cellar 2021 Marlborough Syrah entices you immediately with notes of violet, black pepper spice and pure blue fruits.



PALATE

The palate is tightly wound, with ripe and structural tannins framing juicy but dusky dark berry fruit. There is a vibrant and mouth-watering vein of acidity to this wine, creating a fresh impression and cleansing the palate, ready for another taste.



Founders' Cellar

SYRAH
2021