

Alc	pH	TA
13.31%	3.54	5.73g/l

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

The grapes for this wine come from our Mustang Vineyard, located in the Southern Valleys area of Marlborough's Wairau Valley. Mustang is an important vineyard for the three main varieties that we grow. The high clay content in the soils allows greater water retention, creating the ideal environment for Pinot Noir.

WINEMAKING & BLENDING

A blend of the 10/5 clone and clone 5. Hand-harvested and de-stemmed, with the fermentation initiated by wild yeast following a five-day cold soak. The wine spent 20 days on skins before being racked into barrels. The wine was aged for 12 months in French oak barriques and six months in stainless steel ahead of bottling.

NOSE

The 2021 Mustang Pinot from the Founders' Cellar Collection is immediately and deliciously fragrant in the glass, offering notes of cherry and boysenberry bound with soft rose petal notes and a hint of warm pie crust.

PALATE

On the palate, the fruit notes take on a pure and juicy character, framed by silky tannins and subtle savoury oak notes. Vibrant acidity enlivens and carries the wine through to a lingering and moreish finish.

CLOUDY BAY

NEW ZEALAND



Founders' Cellar

MUSTANG PINOT NOIR
2021