

Borthwick Vineyard

Left Hand 2011 Pinot Noir



Region: Gladstone, Wairarapa, New Zealand

Analysis:

Alcohol: 14.0%

Total acid: 5.8g/l

pH: 3.60

Residual sugar: Dry

Tasting notes: Bouquet of maraschino cherries, plums, cranberries and cedar. A core of dark cherry, cloves and wild herbs are supported by bright fruit and French oak that complement a rich soft palate with finely integrated fruit tannins.

Vintage Conditions: After a cool spring the summer was warm and dry with great heat accumulation. This was followed by a dry and cool autumn which allowed for a long slow ripening period with developed flavours and ideal picking conditions

Viticulture: We have eight hectares of Pinot noir planted in 12 different clones on a mixture of grafted and own roots. Vines are planted in differing areas of the vineyard to maximise the array of flavours available to us during blending. A selection of Abel, 375, and clone 5 make up this blend.

Fermentation: Temperature controlled fermentation using only natural yeasts, combined with hand plunging to optimize the fruit and tannin balance. Following extended post-ferment maceration on skins the wine was drained and pressed to barrel. Rigorous barrel selection and blending is followed by minimal fining and filtration prior to bottling.

Oak Handling: 100% French oak aged for 11 months with a mixture of selected cooperages of which 30% of the barrels are new.

History: Established in 1996 the family owned and managed vineyard produces wine with flavours that are a direct reflection of the Gladstone region. Ancient stony, alluvial soils and a cool climate allows the grapes to grow in harmony in their environment. Sustainable practices and minimal intervention in the vineyard and winery allow our wines to display their distinctive single vineyard characteristics.

Left Hand: The Left Hand and Right Hand Pinot Noirs represent the different personalities of our winemaking team in both vineyard and winery. Left Handed winemaker Braden Crosby (logical, creative and precise) and right handed Vigneron Paddy Borthwick (intuitive, impulsive and thoughtful) have each selected a premium parcel of grapes they believe to be the finest expression of the Borthwick Estate Vineyard. Applying their own individual winemaking nuances, with much tasting, lively debate and careful barrel selection Braden and Paddy have produced two distinct wines of 840 bottles each. Produced in only the best seasons, these wines display expressions of Pinot Noir as much as the winemakers themselves.