



LAWSON'S DRY HILLS  
— MARLBOROUGH —

# THE PIONEER

## PINOT GRIS 2010

**Region:** Marlborough

**Winemaker:** Marcus Wright/Rebecca Wiffen

**Alcohol:** 14.5% **pH:** 3.55 **RS:** 16g/L

**TA:** 5.25g/L **Brix:** 25.4

### Tasting Notes

This wine shows lovely aromatic complexity with nashi pear, fruit salad, lemon blossom, nectarine and freshly baked pastries. Pinot Gris for us is all about the mouthfeel and texture. The palate is rich, round, it is off-dry in style with sweet fruit characters balanced by subtle acidity and a delicate phenolic structure, this wine is elegant yet quite powerful.

### Winemaker's Notes

A single pick was made late in the season at an elevated brix level (25.4) the grapes were clean and showing a small amount of shrivel, but little noble rot. After destemming the grapes were gently pressed with the free juice going to stainless steel tank for fermentation whilst the pressings were fermented in a three year old puncheon and several barriques. The fermentation was stopped when we felt the balance of the wine was at its optimum (16g/L) We regularly stirred the lees to encourage yeast autolysis.

### Viticulture Notes

Picked off the Barnsley vineyard located about 20kms inland from Blenheim township in the Waihopai Valley. This area has hot summer days (30c max) and cool nights, which when combined with the silt/gravel soils produce wines with distinct varietal characters with lifted floral notes and elegant yet powerful palates. Given all the love and attention that the vines could hope for, this vineyard invariably produces stunning Pinot Gris, the 2010 was no exception. In fact our 2010 could be the best Pinot Gris we have ever produced.

### Cellaring

six to ten years

### Food Match

Thai spiced crab cakes



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