



LAWSON'S DRY HILLS
— MARLBOROUGH —

TASTING NOTES



The Pioneer Pinot Noir 2015

Tasting Notes

Blackberry and dark cherry aromas combine wonderfully with vanilla and smoky French oak. The palate is rich and round with great flavour concentration and fine velvety tannins resulting in a wine that offers both power and elegance.

Vineyards and viticulture

From our two Waihopai Valley vineyards, the soils are a mix of windblown loess, clay and silts layered over alluvial gravels. We used a mix of clones - Barnsley vineyard 115-56%, C15-28%, Lawson's Dry Hills vineyard 115/667-16%. 2015 gave us wonderful weather which allowed us to pick exactly when we wanted to for optimal flavours and ripeness. The vintage was characterised by small berries with deep colour and intense flavour.

Winemaking

The Pioneer is made from blending the best wines from each clone on each site. They were all individually harvested and placed directly into small, open-top fermenters for cold maceration before the fermentation started spontaneously. Because of the size of the berries, the hand-plunging was limited to twice per day during the ferment. The wines were left on the skins for between seven and twenty days post fermentation before pressing into a mixture of French oak barriques and puncheons. After ten months maturation we tasted every barrel and selected our favourite seven, which we then blended and returned to barrel for a further four months aging.

100% Pinot Noir, Alc 14%, pH 3.6, TA 5.8, RS 0

Cellaring


Six to eight years

Food Match

Roast New Zealand lamb with rosemary and garlic!



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