

VINTAGE REPORT

Notes on the 2023 vintage from the desk of Lawson's Dry Hills chief winemaker, Marcus



LAWSON'S DRY HILLS
MARLBOROUGH

**SAUVIGNON BLANC:
PARTICULARLY
NOTEWORTHY**

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**PINOT NOIR:
RESTRAINED POWER,
EXPRESSIVE, RED FRUIT**

.....

**CHARDONNAY:
BEAUTIFUL FRUIT**

.....

**GEWURZTRAMINER:
LOOKING
EXCEPTIONAL.**

TERRIFIC TEAM AND GREAT WEATHER YIELD A TOP VINTAGE!

Brilliant weather right when we needed it ensured a great vintage, especially for Sauvignon Blanc which captured all the flavours and intensity we're famous for. We manage our yields very carefully, so with moderate crop levels, we were able to obtain good levels of ripeness and flavour concentration in all of our grape varieties.

There was a welcome water supply from a reasonable amount of rain overall, but no added complications such as botrytis. Weather over the harvest period was perfect, beautifully warm and settled so we could pick each block exactly when we wanted to, flavour-packed with a great balance of acidity and ripeness and in perfect condition.



BY VARIETY



Sauvignon Blanc - the Sauvignon Blancs are particularly noteworthy with intense citrus aromatics, lifted passionfruit and bright, fresh flavours bolstered by a deliciously crisp acidity. The wines are high quality across each of our sites - from our Waihopai Valley vineyard in the Southern Valleys to Chaytors Road in the Wairau Valley right through to the Awatere. All wines will be wonderfully expressive and distinctly Marlborough in character.

Chardonnay - beautiful fruit, clean, ripe and flavoursome, all from our Chaytors Road vineyard. The 2023 Reserve will feature a small amount of the 548 clone, planted here several years ago, together with our Mendoza clone. The wines are looking very attractive with lemon and stonefruit aromas and flavours and a balancing, fresh acidity.

Gewurztraminer - looking exceptional. We have several components from the Home Block and the Woodward vineyard, both of which will provide wonderful blending options. Both look wonderful in terms of the classic and anticipated aromatics, flavours and palate weight.

Pinot Gris - we have several Pinot Gris blocks and these all came through with strong varietal fruit characters and importantly, weight and texture. We were able to leave the grapes on the vine long enough for great flavour development but still capture a lovely balance of acidity.

Riesling - as always, this single vineyard, single tank wine is bright, fresh and delicious! Intense citrus and floral notes, mineral tones and mouth-watering acidity will ensure another brilliant wine from this wonderful grape variety.

Pinot Noir - Our goal is to demonstrate elegance and expressive, red fruit characters. Our Waihopai Valley vineyards, and the Tilly's block as always, look the best of the bunch (no pun intended). At this early stage these wines show restrained power and very fine tannins, together with juicy, red berry flavours.