



THE ELDER PINOT NOIR 2011



REGION	Martinborough
WINEMAKER	Paul Mason
VINEYARD NAME	Hanson Vineyard
CLONES	5, 115 and Abel
HARVEST DATE	23rd April 2010
HARVEST ANALYSIS	pH: 3.67 - TA: 8.70 - Brix: 24.3
OAK MATURATION	11% New Oak, 56% 1 year oak, 33% 2-3 year oak
WINE ANALYSIS	pH: 3.72, TA: 6.40, Alc: 13.5%
BOTTLING DATE	15th March 2011

TASTING NOTES

Aromatically this Pinot is a complex mix of dark and red berry fruits and savoury, spice characters. The low cropped vineyards deliver a wine of richness and weight showing a fine balance of acidity, dark fruit characters and grainy full bodied tannins on the palate. While this Pinot Noir is drinking well now, it will benefit from 3-5 years in the cellar and continue to develop over the next 10+ years.

THE VINEYARD

The vineyard is located on an elevated river terrace at the southern end of the Te Muna Valley, at the confluence of the Ruakokopatuna and Huangarua Rivers. The grapes are grown following organic principles in the most sustainable manner possible, with minimal use of irrigation.

THE CELLAR

All fruit was carefully hand harvested and sorted in the vineyard and winery before being destemmed and tipped into open top tanks for fermentation.

The wine underwent a pre-ferment maceration for six days and spent a total of 21 days before being pressed to French oak barrels. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation in barrel and remained on its lees for nine months before racking, blending and bottling.

Indigenous yeasts are used which add to the wine's complexity in addition to traditional methods of punching down the ferments by hand.

THE SEASON

The 2011 growing season started with a warm spring and no frost events, which provided a welcome contrast to previous vintages. A traditional Martinborough summer followed with long warm sunny days and low rainfall providing ideal conditions for vineyard growth. We entered autumn optimistic of another fantastic harvest ahead. Our blocks were picked in perfect condition with ripe fruit characters and lovely acidity. Overall a very good harvest.

Wine from Martinborough, New Zealand

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www.theelderpinot.co.nz