

Wither Hills

MARLBOROUGH NEW ZEALAND

Wairau Valley

2016 PINOT NOIR

Established in 1994, with vineyards strategically sited throughout Marlborough's Wairau Valley, Wither Hills has always been dedicated to the philosophy that exceptional wines are 'created in the vineyard'. Named after the landmark Wither Hills range that borders our vineyards, our expert team grow and craft exceptional wines that reflect our unique sense of place. Complex and full of character – this is the beauty of Marlborough in a glass.

WINEMAKING

Our two stunning Pinot Noir vineyards, Benmorven and Taylor River, make up the blend with the fruit for this Pinot Noir coming from Marlborough's famed 'Southern Valley's' sub region. Each vineyard was hand harvested at optimum ripeness and kept separate throughout the winemaking process to provide the greatest possible individual expression. The fruit was cold soaked in square fermenters, inoculated with selected and wild yeast strains, basket pressed and left to relax for 14 months in French Oak Barriques, during which the wine underwent malolactic fermentation. The wine was then blended, fined, filtered and bottled, resulting in a classically elegant yet opulent mouth-filling Marlborough Pinot Noir.

VITICULTURE

Frost alarms sounded throughout the spring months in Marlborough during the lead up to the 2016 harvest. Fortunately at Wither Hills no damage was sustained and the crop were left to ripen unhindered. This cold snap in early spring gave way to warmer temperatures which persisted for the duration of the season. Favorable conditions during flowering led to a successful fruit set with tightly packed bunches full of berries. A large rainfall event in the New Year gave vines a much needed drink, encouraging juicy berries. The warm conditions that continued during the fall months meant there was little pressure during picking and that the grapes were ripe when it came to harvest. With 2016 being one of the warmest seasons on record, the bountiful crops were given ample time to reach optimum maturity.

WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES

"Rich brooding aromatics full of juicy dark berries and subtle earthy undertones. The palate is layered with seductive morello cherry, wild berry compote, black olive and subtle French oak spice, bundled together with bright acidity and fine tannins. Will reward patient cellaring up to 12 years." Sally Williams, Winemaker

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Alc / Vol: 13.5%. Brix @ Harvest: 23 – 24. pH: 3.41. Titratable Acidity: 5.92. Residual Sugar: 0.7 g/L.



I've been making Pinot Noir at Wither Hills for twelve vintages and it's the wine variety I am most passionate about. Best matched to darker, gamey meats like lamb and venison, this is the wine for Sunday family get togethers...

Sally Williams
Wither Hills Winemaker

