

Wither Hills

MARLBOROUGH NEW ZEALAND

Wairau Valley



2018 ROSÉ OF 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

Strategically situated vineyards were chosen for this 100% Rosé of Pinot Noir from the Wairau Valley. Fruit was harvested at optimum ripeness for a fresh vibrant style of Rosé. Berries were gently pressed, cold settled, racked and cool fermented with selected yeast strains to enhance the unique aromatics and flavors. After fermentation, the wine remained on light yeast lees to enhance palate feel and structure. The wine was then racked, blended, filtered, and bottled to retain & capture the lovely freshness of Marlborough Rosé.

VITICULTURE

Not your average growing season! Marlborough experienced slightly below average temperatures in September, which then swung around completely for the remainder of the season with well above average growing degree days. The result was an earlier vintage due to the amazing summer. Wither Hills was lucky to completely escape frosts in our vineyards during crucial periods this year. From bud burst, the season looked to be about 3-5 days ahead of the 2016/2017 season slightly ahead of previous years, then by veraison we were 7-10 days ahead. As the season progressed and the sun continued to shine we were on average around 10-15 days earlier with our harvesting, resulting in the 2018 harvest being the earliest on record for Wither Hills, kicking off on Friday 23rd February. The savior of the 2018 vintage was the 2-week period after the rain when we were blessed with typical hot and windy Marlborough days to dry out both the fruit and land. Tonnages for the year were a little lower than expected, but with a little luck and good planning we were able to pick most of our fruit at the optimal time when the flavors were just right.

WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES

"This mouthwatering Rosé of Pinot Noir is refreshing and dry in style with perfumed aromas of rose petals, summer berries, white peaches and strawberries and cream. The palate carries on those delightful summer berries with subtle creamy texture and superb length balanced nicely with a refined acid backbone. Summer in a glass, this dry style Rosé is the perfect year-round." Matt Large, Winemaker

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

Alc / Vol: 12.5%. Brix @ Harvest: 21 – 23.
pH: 3.53. Titratable Acidity: 6.1.
Residual Sugar: 4 g/L.

