



THE ELDER PINOT GRIS LH 2018



REGION - Martinborough
WINEMAKER - Paul Mason
VINEYARD NAME - Hanson Vineyard
CLONES - Lincoln Berrysmith
HARVEST DATE - 18th May 2018
HARVEST ANALYSIS - Brix: 23.9, pH: 3.60, TA: 4.80 g/L
OAK MATURATION - 3 months in old French oak barrels
WINE ANALYSIS - pH: 3.30, TA: 5.50 g/L Alc: 10.5%, RS: 39.0 g/L
BOTTLING DATE - 17th September 2018

TASTING NOTES

Bright straw gold in colour the wine is luscious, decadent yet balanced and refreshing. Aromas of tropical fruits, mandarin and pear on the nose with a hint of spice evident. On the palate the wine is medium sweet with gorgeous richness and sweet marmalade flavours with a backbone of mineral acidity to give the wine freshness and balance. Enjoy chilled now or over the next 5 years.

THE SEASON

A warm settled spring with no frost and very little wind provided an excellent start to the season. The lovely weather continued through into summer giving us favourable fruit set in all varieties and everything was looking very positive. February delivered a few challenges, with high humidity and a rainfall three times greater than average, which resulted in significant additional work in the vineyard to thin canopies and bunches. Our dry Pinot Gris was harvested on the 10th April but we left a few rows unpicked to allow late harvest flavours to develop. The weather for the next few weeks was dry and clear, which enabled us to harvest this fruit in mid-May.

THE CELLAR

The fruit was hand harvested, with careful selection of clean bunches showing moderate shrivel. The grapes were then whole-bunch pressed and the juice settled for two days before racking. Fermentation was carried out in a 300L old oak barrel and stopped with a moderate residual sugar level (39g/L) by chilling the ferment to zero degrees. We then racked the wine to another old French oak barrique and aged the wine on lees for a further three months.

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.

Wine from Martinborough, New Zealand

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