

## Black Estate Netherwood Pinot Noir 2019

### Vineyard

Planted in 1986 at a vine density of 5000 vines per hectare. The soils are classified as Waipara Greensand which is a green grey richly glauconitic sandstone. A mass selection of Pinot Noir cuttings were planted on their own roots and established and farmed without irrigation. Organic and biodynamic farming practices have been used since 2012. The Netherwood Vineyard was fully certified organic with BioGro in March 2017.

### Season

Early spring rainfall and moderate temperatures meant vines grew evenly though out our vineyards from around the spring equinox in late September. Night time temperatures remained above zero preventing frost damage for the third spring in a row. Rapid vegetative growth kept our vineyard team busy with shoot thinning, cultivation, and organic spray rounds with short intervals. Cool wet weather through flowering at the end of November effected flowering and fruit set. By the summer solstice in late December it was clear that yields would be low and bunch and berry size would be small. Warm dry conditions in January and February slowed vegetative growth and ripened fruit. Settled conditions in March allowed an early start to harvest where hand harvested fruit was ripe and clean with low disease pressure and optimal ripeness. While yields were very low quality across all varieties was exceptional.

### Harvest

Hand harvested on March 28 and 29 2019. Harvest 3.5 Ton Yield = 0.41kg/vine. Brix 21.2. TA 8.6g/ L pH 3.37 MA 2.3g/L

### Fermentation and maturation

100% whole cluster. Yeast for fermentation was propagated from a vineyard starter. Fermentation lasted 10 to 12 days with hand or foot plunging once per day at the end of fermentation. Pressed after 28 days on skins and drained to tight grained French, 3 to 10 year old barrels. Malo-lactic fermentation was completed by spring. 12 months barrel maturation, then racked to stainless steel tank where the wine settled for 5 months. Bottled without fining or filtration. Sulphites added.

### Bottled

142 (12 x 750ml) cases bottled in one lot under screw cap on September 22 2020. R. S. <0.10 g/L TA 4.0 g/L pH 3.82 Dry extract 26.3 g/L Alcohol 12.0% VA 0.71g/L TSO2 14 mg/L

### Wine Notes

Red ruby hue. Aromas of vibrant red cherry, recurrent, autumn leaves, deep red rose, and hints of fertile earth. Flavours of silken and luscious red fruit, with structured mid palate tannin from fruit and mature stems. Strong, persistent flavour length and texture that is light footed carrying fruit, fine complex tannin and gentle calcareous minerality. This is an unfined and unfiltered wine with small amounts of sediment. Please allow the bottle to stand and settle before pouring. Decanting will allow maximum expression of aroma and purity of fruit to emerge.

Drink now to 2028