

OYSTER BAY MARLBOROUGH PINOT NOIR

2021/\$17.99



DESCRIPTION

New Zealand Pinot Noir has jumped onto the world wine stage with recent but rapid growth in quality and recognition. Pinot Noir didn't develop a significant presence in New Zealand until the late 1980's, and production stayed small in the beginning. But plantings doubled between 2003 and 2013, quality jumped and the world took notice. This is partly due to the propagation of one specific clone, the Abel clone (named after the customs agent who discovered vine cuttings hidden in a boot) that is rumored to be originally from Burgundy's famous, Domaine de la Romanee Conti.

Pinot Noir is grown throughout New Zealand, but the majority hails from the South Island. The most important North Island region is Wairarapa, near the southern tip. Here the thin, poor soils and frost danger keep yields low. But the long growing season and dramatic diurnal temperature shift lead to dry, earthy Pinot Noir wines that in good years, show terrific red fruit and lovely depth.

The South Island in New Zealand has three regions of great significance. Marlborough Pinot Noirs hail mostly from the Awatere Valley, which is slightly drier and cooler than the Wairau Valley. The grape is grown for both sparkling and still wines, with the latter showing improvement as the vines age. The Canterbury region is composed of small producers making handcrafted Pinot Noirs that show tantalizing promise. Finally, Central Otago in New Zealand is the world's southernmost wine region. Summers here are short but extremely sunny and dry, with cold nights that preserve grape acidity. Otago Pinot Noir wines show earthy and herbal notes, as well as vivacious red fruit flavors that are as bright as they are ripe. It is unusual, in fact, to find a Pinot that is under 14% alcohol. Taken together, New Zealand

Pinot Noirs offer a wealth of delightful options for fans of this variety.

In a relatively short space of time, New Zealand has risen to become one of the world's great wine producing nations. From New York to Sydney to London and beyond they are enormously proud Oyster Bay is one of the most loved and sought after wines internationally. From the moment they released their first vintage in 1990, winning Gold and the coveted Marquis de Goulaine Trophy for 'Best Sauvignon Blanc in the world', they knew. Blessed with the natural advantages of New Zealand's maritime cool climate and ancient alluvial soils, Oyster Bay continues to capture the essence of New Zealand's cool climate viticulture with their world-class range of elegant and assertive wines with glorious fruit flavors.

Their vines flourish in some of New Zealand's leading vineyards, in its most renowned wine regions, Marlborough and Hawke's Bay. And their state-of-the-art, winemaking facilities, have been carefully designed to preserve the intense varietal flavors which come from these unique sites.

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With Pinot Noir the fruit is always the primary focus. Each vineyard block is harvested as a separate parcel and treated individually at each stage of the winemaking process. This enables them to tailor traditional winemaking techniques to the wine, providing elegance and complexity. They use a combination of barrel and tank fermentation and mature the wine in a range of new and older French oak.

Tasting Notes

Nose:

Oyster Bay Pinot Noir is elegant, cool climate Pinot Noir at its best. Fragrant, soft and flavorful, with aromas of ripe cherries.

Palate:

Fragrant dark cherry with juicy black plum, elegant, and silky. It possesses sweet fruit tannins that provide structure and length.

Pairing:

Pinot Noir is incredibly versatile with food. It compliments pork, veal, game, duck, chicken, and salmon.

Winery Website: [Marlborough Pinot Noir](#) | [New Zealand Pinot Noir](#) | [Oyster Bay - United States \(oysterbaywines.com\)](#)

Fun Facts

Recently awarded 95 points and a Gold Medal at the International Wine Challenge.

2023 DECANTER WORLD WINE AWARDS - 2021 OYSTER BAY PINOT NOIR - AWARDED 90 POINTS

Marlborough G.I., New Zealand



NEW ZEALAND
GUILD OF SOMMELIERS

