

## Map Maker 2018 Marlborough Pinot Noir

### Viticulture

'Map Maker' 2018 Pinot Noir is crafted from carefully selected parcels of fruit grown on unique sites within the famous Rapaura and Brancott areas of Marlborough. Our mixture of multiple individual parcels, 4 different clones and a range of soil profiles provide us with great variation of fruit, each with unique flavour and tannin structure.

The 2017/2018 growing season started off relatively cold and wet, setting us up for a smaller but really high quality harvest. Luckily we then had a warm and dry summer but still with quite less fruit than previous years. To help the crop along we gave the vines a partial leaf stripping to allow greater sunshine exposure on the grape bunches. Added to this, the sun then came out more consistently from the beginning of March all the way through to harvest. This 'Indian Summer' helped ripen the fruit and gave us an unexpectedly great vintage that retained beautiful acid.

### Winemaking

'Map Maker' Pinot Noir was hand-harvested, then de-stemmed prior to going to open top fermenters in which the various components underwent a cold soak lasting 6-10 days. When this colour extraction stage was done the grapes were 'let go' to warm up for the alcoholic fermentation by wild yeasts. We then did quite a long 'post-fermentation maceration' which for some parcels lasted up to 40 days. Once this post fermentation maceration was complete, the wine was pressed off, settled briefly and racked straight to barrels to mature and undergo a natural malolactic fermentation. In total the wine spent 18 months in barrels, adding to its structure and complexity.



### Wine analysis

Alcohol	: 13.0 %	Harvest Dates:	18 March – 22 March
Acidity	: 5.6 g/l	Brix:	22.5 – 23.8
Sugar	: <1 g/l		

### Tasting Note

The 'Map Maker' 2018 Pinot Noir has lovely aromas of ripe black cherries and wild violets. In the mouth the wine has a grainy tannin structure and is intensely flavoured with sweet cherries, cedarwood and savoury characters such as dried herbs and wild game flavours. This is a sophisticated Pinot Noir with an 'old world' elegance and mineral lingering finish.