

Blackenbrook Pinot Noir 2022

Our Pinot Noir 2022 is an energetic and aromatically generous wine that delivers layers of cherries, spice and savoury earthiness with great purity and finesse.

It's our Moutere clay soils, the dazzling Nelson sun and the finger prints of our team that make our wines unique. We hope you'll enjoy.



The Season: It started off like a dream: a warm spring, mild conditions for flowering and a strong fruit set, lots of blue skies and just enough rainfall to keep the vineyard happy and working at its best.

But 70mm of rain followed by two weeks of warm, humid weather in February had us worried about our crop. The weather recovered, but the grapes were now fragile and wouldn't survive another big rain event.

And where would we find pickers? Covid 19 was raging and the borders closed. But the community support was absolutely amazing with lots of people offering their help. We ended up bringing in a beautiful harvest with the best picking team ever – such a relief!

Sustainable Production,
Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand



Vineyard:

Fruit: exclusively from our 21 year old Home Block
Soil: Moutere clay with a layer of sandy loam
Clones: UCD5 & 6, 10/5, 22, 114, 115, 667, 777, Abel
Close planting: 3780 vines/ha
Extensive manual shoot thinning and leaf plucking
Hand-harvested on 18 March 2022 with 23 Brix

Winery:

Fruit di-stemmed before fermentation on the skins, hand-plunged, gentle pressing, gravity-fed
from press area to main winery, minimal pumping
Aged for 12 months in French oak barrels (15% new)
in temperature controlled barrel room
Bottled on 24 July 2023, 13.5% alcohol
Screw capsules, light-weight bottles to reduce carbon footprint

93/100 Cameron Douglas MS, camdouglasms.com

Youthful and ripe red fruited bouquet, scents of Doris plum and boysenberry then cherry and some red apple skin suggestions. Some toasty wood and smoky earth qualities then baking spices of clove and vanilla.

An abundance of fine tannins with a chalky mouthfeel add structure and breadth. Well made with a lengthy finish, a wine that needs time to knit all the attributes together, best drinking from 2026 through 2034.

4 Stars Michael Cooper, michaelcooperwines.com