



# AOTEA

*by the Seifried family*

## NELSON N.V. MÉTHODE TRADITIONNELLE

### Awards

Trophy - "Champion Sparkling Wine", Air New Zealand Wine Awards 2017, NZ  
Gold - Air New Zealand Wine Awards 2017, NZ  
95 Points (5 Stars) - Bob Campbell MW, © The Real Review, September 2020  
90 Points - Cameron Douglas MS, March 2017

### Wine Analysis

Variety: 50% Pinot Noir / 50% Chardonnay  
Vineyard: Seifried Cornfield and Brightwater Vineyards  
Sugar at Harvest: 19.4°Brix  
Date of Harvest: Early March 2011  
Disgorgement Date: September 2016  
T.A of Wine: 5.8g/L  
Residual Sugar: 1g/L (Brut)  
Alc.: 12.5% vol.  
Suitable for Vegetarians: Yes

*"A blend of chardonnay and pinot noir with at least four years en tirage. Impressively yeasty Methode saline, oyster-shell, ginger, toasted nut and citrus flavours. An ethereal texture and lengthy finish complete the picture. Very impressive."*

95 Points - Bob Campbell MW, © The Real Review, therealreview.com

*"Totally charming and attractive bouquet with a fine balance between fruit, yeast autolysis and complexity; aromas of lemon, apple, grapefruit and white peach, warm bready, yeasty feel and decent complexity..."*

90 Points - Cameron Douglas MS, March 2017

### Winemakers Note

In 1971 my father Hermann Seifried arrived in New Zealand with a dream of making great wines. He and my mother Agnes pioneered modern winemaking in the Nelson region, planting the first vines and in 1976 producing their first wines. Now, 40 years later we celebrate their vision and the arrival of the next generation, our children, who are growing up in the vineyard and winery. We hope that they too will share the passion for crafting fine wines.

Our Aotea Méthode Traditionnelle is a very special wine. Two parcels of fruit were hand picked at ideal ripeness for this classical Méthode Traditionnelle Cuvée. The Pinot Noir is from our Brightwater Vineyard while the Chardonnay comes from our Cornfield Vineyard. The blend is 50/50 Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. The grapes were hand harvested during the cool early hours of the day and brought to the winery quickly for processing. The free-run juice from the press was cold settled overnight before being racked, warmed and inoculated. A smooth ferment progressed to dryness, followed by malolactic fermentation. The young wine was then prepared for bottle fermentation and aged on lees for an extended period. In 2016 the wine was finished and released to celebrate our 40th vintage at Seifried's.

### The Vineyard

The Cornfield Vineyard is situated on a wide river flat. The soil is gravelly sandy loam, which marks the sites of Maori kumara beds (sweet potato) prior to European settlement in the early 1800's. The Maori transferred and spread fine gravel and sand over the land to provide suitable soils for their kumara plantings. Scrub was burned to give ash and charcoal which increased soil fertility and gave characteristic topsoil. This fertility is now considerably reduced due to modern farming. The soils are however, very sandy and free draining. The water table is relatively high ensuring adequate underground water. These vineyards are about 1.5 kilometers from the sea which helps moderate summer temperatures. The Brightwater vines are grown in an extremely stony area of the vineyard where water and nutrient levels are low. This helps us to restrict the plants vigour and to crop at low levels. Our Brightwater Vineyard is situated 15km from the coast and is sheltered from the south by the Richmond ranges. The 'soil' is a combination of rocks and boulders which is very hard on the farm equipment but vital for holding the warmth of Nelson's sun and for ripening the grapes.

### Tasting Note

The Aotea Méthode Traditionnelle has grapefruit, warm brioche and buttered toast notes on the nose and the palate is luxurious and generous with full biscuity shortbread notes and a crisp, lasting finish.

PIONEERING FAMILY WINEGROWERS  
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