

PIONEER BLOCK 5

BULL BLOCK PINOT GRIS

This vineyard site was originally a grazing paddock for stud Jersey bulls and is now fondly known as the Bull Block.

BLOCK: 5

REGION:

Omaka Valley.

TERROIR:

Soils: Free-draining mix of stones and lighter soils with some clay.

Topography: Flat.

Climate: Typical of the Southern Valley's sub-region climate of very warm days followed by cool nights.

REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND CONTRIBUTION TO UNIQUENESS OF FLAVOURS:

This is a warmer site with early budburst allowing a long ripening period well into late autumn. Hang time increases the intensity and ripeness of the characteristic Pinot Gris aromas and gives richness and weight to the palate.

VITICULTURE:

The fruit was sourced from Rob and Heather Goulter's vineyard in the southern Omaka Valley. Destined for a tardive style with no botrytis influence, the fruit was carefully monitored during ripening and harvested in the cool of the evening at maximum flavour maturity and physiological ripeness.

WINEMAKING:

The fruit was crushed and pressed promptly at cool temperatures to extract the full complement of flavour, phenolic and aroma compounds required. Following the settling period the clear juice was

racked taking with it a portion of the light fluffy lees, then fermented using selected yeast in stainless steel at moderately cool temperatures to retain fruit flavour and freshness. The fermentation was arrested early to retain some residual sugar, to balance the acidity and add richness.

COLOUR:

Pale straw with green hues.

AROMA:

Opulent and generous with aromas of fresh pear, savoury pastry and spice.

PALATE:

Rich and rounded with flavours of crisp white pear and vanilla cream with a subtle floral note. The palate is creamy and textural with a lingering finish.

AGEING:

Drinking beautifully now, this wine will continue to evolve and reward for at least three years from vintage date.

WINE ANALYSIS:

Alcohol 12.5% v/v, Residual sugar 14.05g/L, Titratable Acidity 6.6g/litre, pH 3.31

FOOD MATCH:

An ideal match with soft ripened cheese or crayfish.



WINEMAKER

Stewart MacLennan

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