

FIFTH BRIDGE

Fifth Bridge Central Otago Late Harvest Riesling 2017



THE VINEYARDS LOCATION: Wanaka Road, Cromwell Basin, Central Otago.

VITICULTURE: 2017 was an interesting growing season to say the least. A wet warm spring enabled fantastic early growth with plenty of moisture in the soil to keep the vines happy. A marked change occurred in December where temperatures dropped, and we entered one of the least memorable summers in recent history. Poor weather in December caused flowering to last up to 3 weeks which drove lower crop levels throughout Central Otago. A longer slower ripening period was thankfully finished off by some warmer periods in March which enabled everything to reach full ripeness. Low crop levels meant it wasn't a great year for the accountants, but winemakers were kept happy with amazing flavour concentration and complexity exhibited in the fruit.

WINEMAKING CONSIDERATIONS: The grapes for this wine come from Cromwell basin vineyards managed by our Fifth Bridge viticultural team. The grapes were left to hang and harvested late in the season when the berries had shrivelled like raisins to concentrate the flavours. The juice was then treated in a reductive manner, settled overnight and racked clean the following morning, then fermented cool, to help maximise varietal character. The wine was stop fermented sweet to craft a Late Harvest sweet style with concentration, texture and balance. Finally, the wine was filtered and bottled.

TASTING NOTES: This beautifully balanced Late Harvest Riesling shows lusciously ripe citrus and stone fruit type aromas – the palate is defined by apricots, hints of lime and honeysuckle flavours. This is a Late Harvest sweet style Riesling that finishes crisp and clean with well-balanced acidity – delicious with blue cheese & gingerbread!

CELLARING: Will continue to improve 3-5 years from vintage date under optimal cellaring conditions.

Alcohol:	13.5%	TA:	8.88 g/L	pH:	3.26	R.S.	116 g/L
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