ATA RANGI

MARTINBOROUGH

OLD VINE ABEL PINOT NOIR

2024

WINE OF NEW ZEALAND

The Abel clone has been at the heart of Ata Rangi since our first plantings in 1980, and its journey to Martinborough is a remarkable one. Clive Paton sourced the Pinot Noir vines that became our Old Vine plantings from a small Auckland vineyard tended by wine enthusiast Malcolm Abel. The vines had originally been intercepted and confiscated at Auckland Airport, where Malcolm was working as a customs officer in the mid-1970s. After they emerged from quarantine, Malcolm—captivated by the story that they came from a prestigious Burgundy vineyard—was determined to see them planted. By 1980, he had made wine from the vines and generously supplied cuttings to Clive, establishing the original plantings in our home block. A few years later, Clive's sister Ali planted part of her own block with cuttings from the same vines. Today, the Abel clone makes up around 45% of Ata Rangi's Pinot Noir plantings and remains the heart of our style, bringing long, fine tannins and a distinctly savoury character.

2024 was a beautiful vintage: warm but not hot, dry but with rain arriving just when the vines needed it. Our Old Abel vines produced perfectly balanced tannings, resulting in a poised, elegant and arresting Pinot Noir. This is only the second individual bottling from these old vines, following the inaugural 2019 release. 753 bottles produced, this is a very special wine.

Harvested 9 April 2024

Vineyard
Ata Rangi Home Block and Champ Ali
- Old vine Abel on own roots

Harvest Brix 23.7
Cellaring Potential Now – 2045

Wine Analysis Alc 13.0%
TA 5.5g/l pH 3.60

Winemaking

100% whole bunch ferment, that starts slowly over a 10-day period with indigenous yeasts. Peak ferment temp of 26°C, gently pumped over once per day. Up to 24 days until pressing. Malo-lactic fermentation in barrel. 11 months in French oak barriques (35% new), then another 6 months in tank.

Bottling Date: August 2025
Certified Organic

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