

The Fifth Innings

LIMITED RELEASE

2014 PINOT NOIR
MARLBOROUGH, NEW ZEALAND

Finished with raising his bat, Misty Cove vintner Andrew Bailey now raises his glass to celebrate his cellar's 2014 limited Edition vintage of The Fifth Innings, his encore and salute to the timeless traditions of Marlborough Pinot Noir and the after match. Elegant complexity and deep concentration not only embody the intense inner psyche of the seasoned cricketer but also this delivery from Misty Cove's Rapaura vineyard.

Much like the hand-made craftsmanship of the finest willow, this Pinot Noir is the only welcome drop for the cricketing tragic. Whether vension or duck, spectator or sportsman, opening The Fifth Innings has never been so appealing.

VINTAGE

The 2014 Marlborough vintage was the warmest of the last 10 years if not the last 20 years and will go down in history as one of the best on record. The growing season (bud-burst) began in October with warmer than usual conditions which continued right through into late March and April experiencing a beautiful "Indian summer". The long, warm, and sunny days gave us excellent ripening conditions and we knew we were in for a big crop so careful vineyard management of shoot thinning and dropping of bunches allowed us to achieve very intense flavours across all varieties.

VINIFICATION

The very best fruit for this wine was hand picked in whole clusters from our Rapaura Vineyard. In the winery the whole clusters were given a cold soak for 96 hours to help extract color and tannin before a warm natural ferment (32°C) with a selection of burgundy yeasts in open top fermenters with frequent gentle hand-plunging. The clusters were kept whole to enhance aromatic and flavor complexity along with a more bold and lengthy tannin structure from the warm fermentation.

TASTING NOTE

Our Fifth Innings Pinot Noir is hand crafted from only the very best whole clusters of our Rapaura vineyard, this age-worthy wine displays intense fruit flavours, layers of elegant complexity and deep concentration. The seductive yet complex aromas of red cherry, plum, cassis give way to a palate of savoury flavours and subtle oak spice with an underlying touch of dried herb. Soft and silky with moderate tannins the palate is lush and mouthfilling with great concentration and length.

Andrew Bailey

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