

Hawkshead Bannockburn Pinot Noir 2015

The Story

Today Hawkshead is a 'Single Estate' Vineyard in the Gibbston Valley on State Highway 6, 25 km east of Queenstown as the valley gently falls to the Kawarau Gorge. Located on the 45th Latitude the Hawkshead Vineyard enjoys a near continental climate. Warm days and cool nights evoke memories of Burgundy and our grapes, on the north-facing slopes benefit from all year sunshine. A long dry autumn, accompanied by warm daylight temperatures, ensures slow ripening and intense flavor development for our high-quality fruit. Hawkshead specializes in growing Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris grapes and is recognized for producing award winning wines in New Zealand and overseas.

The Vineyard

Bannockburn on the southern banks of the Kawarau near Cromwell is a very warm, dry district where grapes ripen early on sandy, silty loam soils. The altitude here ranges from 220 to 370 metres in an area known by miners as "the Heart of the Desert".

Winemaking

This premium Pinot Noir was handcrafted from grapes from a single vineyard in Bannockburn. Aged in 30% new French oak barrels for 11 and half months, no fining or filtering.

Tasting Note

The 2015 Hawkshead Bannockburn Pinot Noir has a complex aroma of mixed summer berry goodness, dark cherries and spicy wildflower lift. The palate is warming, sensual and mouthfilling, with elegant flow and density. Fine tannins give the wine a long and persistent finish. The flavours are rich, rounded with a beautiful blend of cherry, Doris plum, wild thyme and French oak.

Raymond Chan:

"Ruby-red colour with some depth and slight garnet hues on the rim. The nose is softly full, up-front and voluminous with aromas of ripe, dark-red berry fruit and plums, and subtle notes of dark herbs and a little whole bunch stalk-like character. The aromatics form a rounded and deep core, unfolding nutty oak. Medium-full bodied, the palate is full and openly accessible with gently mouth filling flavours of ripe, dark-red plum and berry fruit, entwined with nuances of spice and dark herbs. The fruit is rich with fresh underlying acidity lending vitality, and fine, supple tannin structure in support. The flavors carry with good energy, the richness leading to



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a lingering finish. This is a full and accessible, rich fruited Pinot Noir with dark berry and plum flavors along with herbal detail on a supple palate with good vitality. "

Alcohol Percentage	13.5 %
Residual Sugar	Dry
T.A.	6.4 g/L
Aging Potential	7 + years



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