

Lime Rock White Knuckle Hill Pinot Noir 2013

The Story

Lime Rock is a stunning vineyard situated on limestone hills in sunny Central Hawke's Bay, New Zealand specialising in Pinot Noir, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Gris, Merlot and Grüner Veltliner. Elegance, balance and length are a feature of our wines. The limestone contributing to the sought-after mineral characters. The ecological philosophy (vit-ecology), combined with over 30 years of wine industry experience, provides a solid basis for producing wines that express the flavour of our land. .

The Vineyard

The vineyard is on the high, north-facing limestone slopes of Central Hawke's Bay, 6 kilometres west of Waipawa. The three million-year old limestone is soft and crumbly; ideal for vine growth and the best winemaking grapes. The 230-270 m. altitude helps regulate the ripening period and contributes to our distinctive and concentrated aromas. Various positions in the landscape (top, mid and bottom slopes) provide a diversity of niches and micro-climates that add to the complexity of our wines. They have 9 different clones and they can perform differently each year. An ecologically based vineyard management philosophy, that seeks to maintain an undisturbed soil structure, is followed and they put emphasis on providing floral habitat for beneficial insects. Overall the attention to detail in site selection, viticulture and winemaking are reflected in the wine quality.

Vintage 2013

2013 was an excellent growing season with fine warm weather through to harvest.

Winemaking

We ferment in small parcels (a batch per day), soak fruit and juice at cool temperatures for 3-5 days and allow the ferment to take its course before pressing and filling our premium barrels (from three top French coopers i.e. Mercurey, Dargaud & Jaegle and François Frères). After malo-lactic fermentation and aging the wines for about eight months in our 225 ltr barrels we blend the best of the barrels. This is always a vital and exciting part of our winemaking program.



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Tasting Note

White Knuckle 2013 is a truly ripe, bright, structured, powerful yet brooding wine with concentrated fruit, spice, char and super fine tannins. To elaborate, this extremely compact wine shows real panache. There are ripe deep-red fruits, orange rind, fennel seeds and feral tones along with a darker savoury mineral edge and an underlying mineral streak. There are no edges and the tannins are immaculate. This delicious blend of sophistication is a slice of our seabed (just a lick of saline on the finish) and has old world perfume that alludes to the potential of this site and the wine's longevity.

Alcohol Percentage	13.5 %
Residual Sugar	Dry
T.A.	5.4 g/L
Aging Potential	10+ years



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