

Ceres Bannockburn Inlet Vineyard Pinot Noir 2016

The Story

In 1992, Robin settled in Central Otago and sowed the seeds for Mt Difficulty. The Diceys are New Zealand winemaking pioneers. Mt Difficulty is their foundation, CERES is their legacy. CERES fruit comes from three vineyards: one the father's, one each for the sons. Swansong. Inlet. Black Rabbit. Each with their own unique character. Every harvest, the best fruit from these vineyards is saved to make the brothers' CERES blends. This wine is made by hand and hard graft.

The Vineyard

Inlet Vineyard is situated on a river terrace above the Bannockburn inlet. Planted 2002. The soils are loess ranging from 200—600mm on top of deep clay gravels, around 160,000 years old. On an elevation of 225—245m. 5.25 ha.

Vintage 2016

A normal start to the season led to good flowering, but unseasonable cool weather in November halted growth. A warm December helped the vines to recover. The summer had a long, hot finish. The fruit was aromatic with a wider range of flavours. There is significant acid backbone which provides structure and will aid in the aging of this wine.

Winemaking

The fruit was fermented with wild yeast and spent 28 days on the skins; 10 days cold soak, 8 days in ferment, 10 days post ferment. A philosophy of minimal oak influence was followed. Maturation in well-seasoned, aged barrels provided an opportunity for the wine's development. Freedom from oak flavours allows this wine to shine as the most candid expression of Pinot Noir from this site. A total of 80 dozen bottled. 18 months in seasoned barrels (French, from a variety of Burgundian coopers).

Tasting Note

Raymond Chan:

"Ruby-red colour with some depth, lighter on the edge with slight purple hues. The nose is well-concentrated with a firmly packed core of ripe, dark-red and black berried fruits harmoniously melded with dark herbs and earth, and a little whole bunch stalk perfume, unfolding dark-red flora elements. This has density and presence. Medium-full bodied, the palate has rich and sweet flavours of ripe, dark-red berry fruit with an amalgam of black fruits, dark herbs a little earth and notes of whole bunch stalk complexities. This has a solid core with plenty of fleshy



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presence, and the fruit is underlined by plenty of fine-grained tannin extraction with soft acidity. The wine carries to a soft, lingering, red berry fruited finish. This is a firmly packed Pinot noir with plenty of depth and presence of dark-red and black fruits with herbs and earth and whole bunch complexities on a structured palate.”.

Alcohol Percentage	14%
Residual Sugar	Dry
T.A.	4.7 g/L
Aging Potential	7 + years



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