

Foxes Island Le Renard Pinot Noir 2011

The Story

It's been said if ever a film were made about New Zealand wine, John Belsham would be the leading man. He cut his winemaking teeth in Bordeaux, France before becoming one of New Zealand's most highly-regarded winemakers. In 1992 he established Foxes Island Wines and was one of the first winemakers in New Zealand to focus on cellar-aged, single vineyard wines as he had learned to craft in France. Today Foxes Island is the only winery to offer a comprehensive range of cellar aged wines. Specialising in Pinot Noir, there are three levels of wines: The Icons, The Estate.

The Vineyard

The Awatere Valley is located in the southern part of Marlborough and is an area with its own geological significance. The Estate with seven distinct terraces carved out during the glacial period sits on the awatere river which carved a distinct path through the valley. The soils are approximately 40,000 years old. The top three metres of soil are a silty clay loam that sits on a bed of old river rock and papa limestone. Perfect for pinot noir. Taming the unruly, overgrown land required a sensitive approach to preserve the natural terracing and diverse soil profiles. After two years of careful planning and minimal soil disturbance, John Belsham planted the first vines in 2000.

Sustainably farmed from the start, the Awatere Estate vineyard has high density plantings of pinot noir, chardonnay, sauvignon blanc and riesling; varieties all produced under the Foxes Island label. Today 70% of the vineyard is planted to pinot noir. In 2011 a formal organic farming program was implemented.

Vintage 2011

It is a pleasure to present the 2011 vintage, a powerful yet elegant wine with layers of flavours and textures.

Winemaking

The best vines are hand tended and the selected fruit is naturally vinified by indigenous yeast in oak casks. Matured in small, French oak barrels, the best components are selected for the final blend. A collector's wine, Le Renard can be enjoyed today or cellared for the next 15 to 20 years.



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Tasting Note

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"Le Renard Pinot Noir is finesse, elegance and complexity." - Cameron Douglas, Master Sommelier.

Alcohol Percentage	13.5%
Residual Sugar	Dry
T.A.	
Aging Potential	10 + years



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