



DOG POINT
VINEYARD

Pinot Noir 2015

Marlborough, New Zealand

ESTATE

Almost since its inception, Dog Point has been recognized as among the very top (arguably the very top) wine producers in New Zealand. Their two very different Sauvignon Blancs, their Pinot Noir, and their Chardonnay are all wines of astounding quality and complexity not just in the context of New Zealand wines, but globally. Their wines are hand-crafted from estate fruit grown on some of the oldest vines and best sites in Marlborough, some plantings dating back to the 1970s.

WINE

Dog Point's renown as a Sauvignon Blanc producers has done nothing to lessen the enthusiasm around their Pinot Noir, today considered one of the finest in New Zealand. What sets their wine apart is the generosity of the structure, which comes off as rich but not sweet, and the complex mingling of fruit and savory notes.

VINEYARD

Soils: Dog Point grows Pinot Noir on the clay hill slopes, and more specifically has 6 clones that were planted starting in 1983.

Yields: Vines are managed so that yields are 35 hl/ha, and as with all Dog Point wines, the picking is by hand (only 5% of New Zealand fruit is hand-picked).

Grape Varieties: 100% Pinot Noir.

WINEMAKING

Fermentation: The fruit is hand sorted and destemmed, with 15% of whole clusters included. Fermentation is in small stainless steel open top fermenters with 100% native yeasts, and lasts around 2 weeks before pressing into French oak barrels (40% new). Bottling is without fining or filtration.

Aging: 18 months in older French oak barrels (40% new).

VINTAGE

The 2015 harvest began with an early start on the March 3rd after a warm and dry season, with only half of the usual annual rainfall (310mm). It was a small yielding year due to indifferent weather at flowering, followed by a dry summer, which led to concentrated wines that will age well.

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JAMES SUCKLING

"Impressive red-cherry aromas precede great depth and structured, handy tannins that pull real flavors out of the wine and coat the palate. This holds fresh and rich darker cherries and red plums long into the finish. Regal pinot with soul and swagger."