

Felton Road

The Felton Road Cornish Point Pinot Noir 2020 is a concentrated and brooding expression of Central Otago Pinot Noir, marked by rich fruit and complex spice notes. This wine demonstrates the unique character of the Cornish Point vineyard, offering depth and elegance.

FELTON ROAD



Cornish Point Pinot Noir 2024

Central Otago, New Zealand

Region and Vineyards

The **Cornish Point Vineyard** is located in the **Bannockburn** sub-region of **Central Otago**, New Zealand. Positioned close to a body of water, the vineyard benefits from a unique **mesoclimate**, where proximity to the water tempers extreme temperatures, ensuring even ripening. The site features a combination of **cool, wet spring conditions** and smaller berry sizes due to the cooler temperatures during flowering, contributing to the wine's concentration.

The vineyard is farmed using **biodynamic methods**, certified by **BioGro** and **Demeter** , ensuring sustainable viticultural practices. The vines are managed with meticulous attention, including **hand-harvesting**, **shoot thinning**, **leaf plucking**, and **bunch thinning** to promote optimal fruit quality. The cover crops planted between the rows enhance the biodiversity of the vineyard, contributing to soil health and vine balance.

Winemaking

Felton Road's hands-off approach to winemaking ensures that the vineyard's terroir is fully expressed. The **2020 Cornish Point Pinot Noir** grapes were **gently destemmed** into open-top fermenters, with **20% whole clusters** retained for complexity. Fermentation was carried out with **indigenous yeasts**, and the wine underwent a **moderately long maceration** on the skins to extract tannins and deepen flavors.

The wine was aged for **13 months** in **30% new French oak barrels** sourced from artisan Burgundian cooperages. In keeping with Felton Road's philosophy, the wine was neither fined nor filtered, preserving its natural structure and complexity. The result is a wine that showcases the vineyard's distinctive fruit and spice characteristics, with excellent aging potential.

Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep ruby with a vibrant hue.
- **Aroma**: Aromas of **lavender** and **violets** dominate the nose, intermingling with ripe **plum**, clove, and dark chocolate. The floral and spice elements are supported by subtle hints of sandalwood.
- **Palate**: On the palate, the wine is rich and concentrated, with flavors of **black plum**, mocha, and a touch of spice. The texture is smooth and velvety, with fine tannins providing structure. There is an underlying complexity that promises to develop further with age, and the wine finishes long with balanced acidity and depth.

Did You Know?

The **Cornish Point Vineyard** benefits from its unique location near water, which creates a mesoclimate that helps moderate temperatures and supports even fruit ripening. This is particularly important in years like 2020, where cooler conditions prevailed, helping to intensify the flavors in the wine.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Slow-roasted lamb with rosemary and garlic**: The wine's dark fruit and spice notes complement the savory richness of roasted lamb.
- **Beef Wellington**: The combination of tender beef, mushrooms, and pastry pairs well with the wine's complex flavors and structured tannins.
- **Wild mushroom risotto**: The earthy flavors of mushrooms harmonize beautifully with the wine's floral and mocha notes.
- **Duck confit with cherry glaze**: The wine's ripe plum and dark fruit flavors balance the richness of the duck, while its acidity cuts through the fat.

95 James Suckling

James Suckling (JS) : 95 Points (2020)

A fragrant nose with aromas of cranberries, wild strawberries, sour cherries, dried orange rind, dried herbs and spice box. Medium-to full-bodied with crisp acidity and fine tannins. Structured and crunchy. Lovely texture. Mineral and fleshy with a long, flavorful finish. Drink or hold.

93

Robert Parker (RP) : 93 Points (2020)

The 2020 Cornish Point Pinot Noir has sweet roasted meats, pepper-rolled pastrami and Szechuan spice on the nose. In the mouth, the wine is more delicate and finer than expected from the aromatics, and it is supported by the cooling acidity in providing freshness and repose from some of the more savory characters in the wine. A lovely juxtaposition. 14% alcohol, sealed under screw cap.