Escarpment

Escarpment Martinborough Pinot Noir showcases the region's renowned terroir, offering a balanced expression of savoury complexity and dark fruit . This wine is approachable yet layered, with a soft texture and ripe tannins.

ESCARPMENT
MARTINBOROUGH

92

Alcohol :13,40 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

Martinborough Pinot Noir 2021

Martinborough, New Zealand

Region and Vineyards

The growing season in **Martinborough** saw small yields, but above-average summer temperatures allowed for **good ripeness** and **concentrated fruit** development. This Pinot Noir is a blend of fruit sourced from several vineyards across the district, with **60% of the grapes** coming from the prestigious **Te Muna Road** sub-region.

Martinborough's **alluvial soils** and cool climate provide the perfect conditions for Pinot Noir, allowing the grapes to retain their natural acidity while developing intense flavors. This vintage benefited from the optimal growing conditions, leading to a wine that balances freshness with complexity.

Winemaking

The **Escarpment Martinborough Pinot Noir** was made with minimal intervention to preserve the purity of the fruit. The grapes were **hand-harvested** and gently crushed into open-top fermenters. The wine was **plunged once daily** to ensure gentle extraction, and after an average of **20 days** of maceration on the skins, it was pressed and aged for **11 months in French oak barriques** (15% new). Following this, the wine spent an additional **9 months in stainless steel tanks** before bottling, without fining or filtration.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep ruby red.
- **Aroma**: The nose offers lifted **dark fruit** aromas, complemented by **earth** and **spice** notes, with hints of **herbs de Provence**, **mushroom**, and **wild game**.
- **Palate**: Medium-bodied with soft, ripe tannins. The wine displays classic **Pinot Noir** varietal characters, with flavors of **dark fruit**, **turned earth**, and **subtle spice**. The palate is smooth and elegant, with depth and structure that suggest good aging potential.

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Did you know?

This Pinot Noir is a true expression of **Martinborough's** terroir, known for its ability to produce world-class **Pinot Noir**. The wine reflects Escarpment's winemaking philosophy of letting the region's unique characteristics shine through, using minimal intervention techniques to maintain the wine's natural balance and complexity.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Beef Bourguignon**: The wine's earthiness and dark fruit flavors complement the richness of slow-cooked beef.
- **Duck with mushrooms**: The savory, mushroom notes in the wine match beautifully with dishes that highlight earthy ingredients like mushrooms and game.
- **Grilled salmon**: The soft tannins and medium body make this a great pairing with richly flavored fish dishes.
- **Asian cuisine**: The balance of spice and fruit in the wine pairs well with a variety of bold, flavorful Asian dishes.

Robert Parker (RP) : 92 Points (2021)

The 2021 Pinot Noir is svelte and balanced; it's really settled into itself now at two years post-harvest. There's a nice, fleshy green parsley note on the nose. The fruit tastes ripe and fleshy and feels it in the mouth too. Nice mineral acidity shapes the wine and keeps it alive in the mouth. This is super pleasurable drinking here. There are pomegranate pearls and pink peppercorns. There is energy here. 13% alcohol, sealed under screw cap. This is composed of 61.5% Te Muna Road Vineyard, with the balance from in town. It was plunged once daily and spent 20 days on the skins. Aging was in 22% new oak for 11 months, with a further nine months in tank. Bottled unfined and unfiltered.

James Suckling (JS) : 96 Points (2020)

Intensely spicy and perfumed with concentrated notes of purple plums, cherry stones, rosemary, neroli, cloves, cigar box and ground coffee. The tannins are firm and tightly-knit, providing a solid frame to the dark fruit. Sensual and distinctive.

Wine Spectator (WS) : 95 Points (2020)

A stunning wine, opening up with fleshy black cherry, pomegranate and blood orange flavors that show perfumed details of green cardamom seed and dried violet. The tannins are dense, but also thick and velvety, giving plenty of traction to the long, expressive finish, where notes of malty Assam black tea and forest floor linger.

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