



# Craggy Range

The Craggy Range Aroha 2020 is an elegant single-vineyard Pinot Noir from Te Muna Road, Martinborough, expressing both richness and finesse, with layers of fruit and savory complexity.



## Aroha 2020

Hawkes Bay, New Zealand

### Region and Vineyards

The **Te Muna Road Vineyard**, located in **Martinborough**, is one of New Zealand's most esteemed Pinot Noir regions. The vineyard is divided into **two terraces**, with the upper terrace featuring ancient **alvi-fulvic soils** ideal for growing **Pinot Noir**. This region is known for its **cool climate**, which provides a long ripening season, essential for producing Pinot Noir with great complexity, elegance, and aromatic intensity.

The **2020 vintage** started with a wet spring but transitioned into a warm and dry ripening period, resulting in ideal conditions for producing high-quality Pinot Noir. The careful selection of parcels and attention to vineyard management ensured a **low-yield harvest** of intensely flavored fruit, with an average production level of **38 hl/ha**.

### Winemaking

**Aroha 2020** is crafted using traditional techniques, with a focus on preserving the purity and elegance of the Pinot Noir grape. The grapes are **100% hand-harvested** between **20-24 March**, with **70% whole bunches** and **30% destemmed** fruit used during fermentation. The wine is fermented in a combination of **open-top stainless steel tanks** and **French oak cuves**, with fermentation driven by **indigenous yeasts**.

After fermentation, the wine is aged for **14 months** in **French oak barriques**, with **34% new oak**, providing structure and depth without overwhelming the delicate fruit character. The wine is **fined**, but not filtered, ensuring a natural expression of the vineyard.

Alcohol :13,70 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir



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## Tasting Notes

- **Color:** A classic **Burgundy red** with soft **crimson hues**.
- **Aroma:** The nose reveals layers of **wild berries**, **sweet brambly fruit**, and **porcini mushrooms**, complemented by notes of **forest floor**, **lavender**, and **Provençal floral tones**.
- **Palate:** On the palate, the wine is elegant and refined, with **silky tannins** carrying flavors of **high-tone berries** wrapped in savory, earthy undertones. The **velvety tannins** provide a smooth texture and generous length, with oak subtly supporting the background.
- **Finish:** The finish is long, with lingering notes of **berry fruit**, **earth**, and a touch of **oak spice**, leaving a lasting impression.

## Did You Know?

The name **Aroha** means "love" in Māori, symbolizing the deep connection and respect Craggy Range has for its vineyards and the winemaking process. The 2020 vintage is considered one of the best for this wine, benefiting from near-perfect ripening conditions and low yields that concentrated the flavors.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Duck confit with cherries:** The savory richness of the duck pairs perfectly with the bright berry flavors and silky tannins of the Pinot Noir.
- **Mushroom risotto:** The earthy notes of the mushrooms complement the wine's porcini and forest floor aromas.
- **Herb-crusted lamb:** The aromatic herbs enhance the floral notes of the wine, while the tender lamb matches its elegant tannins.
- **Beetroot and goat cheese salad:** The earthy sweetness of beetroot and the creamy texture of goat cheese are lifted by the wine's acidity and berry-driven palate.



### James Suckling (JS) : 97 Points (2020)

*This is a very stylish, plump and fleshy pinot that has a sweetly spicy, floral and fragrant nose with ripe red and dark cherries, as well as sappy, forest leaves and gentle, earthy tones. Complex, young and fresh. The palate has such supple and sappy cherries and blueberries with a fresh, tangy line of acidity and a long, polished finish. Impressive*



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### **Decanter (DCT) : 95 Points (2020)**

*Such a gorgeous perfumed fragrance on the nose; a wild flower garden, roses, violets, grass, juniper berry. So joyful on the palate, scented and fragrant, expressive but light and gentle, so graceful on the palate with a seriously juicy core that just gives lift to the whole palate. Focussed and direct, it's not weighty but delivers in a straight line of flavour with the aroma giving the expansiveness. Piercing yet airy, sweet cherry flavours dominate in terms of fruit with a touch of plum and hint of wild stewed strawberry with tiny hints of spice. Distinctly Pinot Noir and yet not at all Burgundian, a beautiful different expression. Leaves a lifted and lingering impression - this wine will put a smile on your face.*



### **Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 95 Points (2020)**

*A serene, mouthcoating style that soothes your palate and could be served to the sound of pan pipes. It conveys a sense of rich, unadulterated fruit and broadens in the mouth before the combination of acidity and drawn-out gravelly tannins pulls the wine together, lending purpose and freshness. Expect strawberry fruit alongside lifted herbal and violet tones. Wild-fermented in French oak barrels and matured over 14 months before bottling, the oak is well integrated, supporting discreetly rather than standing out.*

