



Felton Road

The Felton Road Block 3 Pinot Noir 2021 is a powerful and complex single-vineyard wine, delivering a unique expression of the Block 3 site in Central Otago. Its blend of wild herbs, spice, and deep fruit flavors makes it a standout among Felton Road's Pinot Noirs.



FELTON ROAD



Block 3 Pinot Noir 2021

Central Otago, New Zealand

Region and Vineyards

Felton Road's **Block 3 Vineyard** is located on a **north-facing slope** within **The Elms Vineyard** in the **Bannockburn** sub-region of **Central Otago**, New Zealand. The vineyard's soils are predominantly **deep silt** interspersed with **calcareous seams**, providing an excellent foundation for growing Pinot Noir. The warm, north-facing slope ensures optimal sunlight exposure, aiding in the even ripening of the grapes.

The vineyard is managed using **biodynamic practices**, certified by **BioGro** and **Demeter**, ensuring sustainability and the health of the ecosystem. **Hand-harvesting** and manual techniques like **shoot thinning**, **leaf plucking**, and **bunch thinning** are employed to maintain balance and quality. These meticulous vineyard practices allow for precise expression of the Block 3 terroir.

Winemaking

The winemaking process for the **2021 Block 3 Pinot Noir** reflects Felton Road's commitment to minimal intervention, allowing the vineyard's character to take center stage. The grapes were **gently destemmed** into open-top fermenters, retaining **25% whole clusters** for added complexity. Fermentation was carried out with **indigenous yeasts**, ensuring the natural expression of the fruit.

The wine underwent a **long maceration** on the skins to extract both color and tannins, resulting in a wine of significant depth and concentration. The wine was aged for **13 months** in **30% new French oak barrels** sourced from artisan cooperages in Burgundy. True to Felton Road's philosophy, the wine was neither fined nor filtered before bottling, preserving its natural structure and texture.

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir



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Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby with a vibrant core.
- **Aroma:** The nose opens with **wild thyme**, spice, and dark fruit aromas, including plum and black cherry. Subtle hints of chocolate and earthiness provide added complexity.
- **Palate:** The wine is incredibly transparent on the palate, with a silky texture that draws you in. Layers of dark fruit, spice, and chocolate unfold gradually. The tannins are fine and well-integrated, focusing their power on the back of the palate. The wine finishes long, with lingering flavors of herbs and ripe fruit, showcasing its serious structure and aging potential.

Did You Know?

Block 3 is one of Felton Road's most celebrated single-vineyard sites, consistently producing wines of great depth and character. The vineyard's **calcareous seams** in the soil contribute to the unique minerality and structure of the wine, making it a standout in Felton Road's portfolio.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Roast duck with thyme and blackberry sauce:** The herbal notes in the wine complement the thyme, while the blackberry sauce enhances the dark fruit flavors.
- **Lamb shank with rosemary:** The wine's depth and structure pair beautifully with the richness of slow-cooked lamb and the aromatic rosemary.
- **Mushroom and truffle risotto:** The earthiness of the mushrooms and truffles harmonizes with the wine's subtle spice and herbaceous character.
- **Venison with a dark chocolate sauce:** The wine's hints of dark chocolate and rich tannins make it an ideal match for game meats with chocolate-infused sauces.



Decanter (DCT) : 97 Points (2021)

A lovely note of raspberry leaf and peony petal floats above pure and tart notes of crushed blackberry on the nose while black pepper shimmers. The palate is wonderfully crunchy, has echoes of smoke and fine tannins. Red fruit peeks through on the midpalate while the finish echoes hauntingly with peony and pepper. 13 months in 25% new French oak barrels.



James Suckling (JS) : 97 Points (2021)

So aromatic with fresh flowers and rose stems. Shows more whole cluster character than others. Full-bodied with layers of powdery tannins and fruit on the palate creating a gorgeous mouthfeel. Tinges of orange peel. Fine finish. The vines are now 29 years old. Drink or hold.



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