

Caroline's

2020 PINOT NOIR
WAITAKI VALLEY, NEW ZEALAND



VINTAGE	2020
VARIETY	Caroline's Pinot Noir
REGION	Waitaki Valley
HARVEST DATES	11–29th April 2020
ALC/VOL	13.5%

PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY:
Ostler Vineyards Ltd, Waitaki Valley,
45 Bledisloe St, Kurow, North Otago, NZ

2020 was a stunning season, warm and dry with just the right amount of heat when needed in the middle of flowering mid-December, giving the vines energy to set small, intensely flavoured berries.

Each clone used, contributes its own personality to the final wine with the plush UCD6, 667 and 777 clones offsetting the more structural 115 and Abel. By keeping the ferments separate in barrel right through maturation we were able to follow the evolution of the wine.

Using only Burgundian coopers 228L barrique and keeping the new barrel proportion closer to 20%. The colour is a satisfyingly deep ruby/magenta with garnet hues, ideal for a fine young Pinot Noir. The aromas are distinctly ripe and obviously Clos Ostler – red and dark currants, raspberries, cherries and a touch of damson plum.

The spice from the ripe seeds is intoxicating giving a delicious brown baking spice aroma of clove, nutmeg and anise. All this is accented by the most delicate yet intense dark liquorice French oak. The palate is immensely satisfying with a delicious sweet ripe fruit entry that builds in intensity as it is warmed in the mouth.

Layers of fruit sit beautifully poised with more of those red and dark fruits sitting in the mid-palate without being heavy or clunky. Powdery and silky tannins provide the perfect foil for richness of the fruit and gentle acidity holds the wine together. It is a classic Caroline's in a similar mold to the 2010 and 2016.



CRITIC REVIEWS

95/100, BOB CAMPBELL MW

"Elegant, seamless pinot noir with oyster shell, savoury/dried herbs, anise/spice and violet flavours. Silken-textured wine that can be appreciated now but has good potential to develop with bottle age."

19+ /20 (96 PTS), CANDICE CHOW

"Deep ruby-red, even colour throughout. This has a delicate bouquet with aromas of bright floral, intermixed cranberry, cherry, tamarillo and savoury, earthy elements. Medium-bodied, aromas of cherry entwined with dried cranberry, unfolding tamarillo, hibiscus, herbs, mushroom and earthy notes. The wine shows purity of fruit, complex developed layers and lovely concentration. Integrated, lacy acidity elevates and lengthens to a hauntingly beautiful linger. This refined Pinot Noir possesses elegant layers of fruit, floral and earthy development, and persists to a long finish. Match with roasted quail and truffle risotto over the next 8 years."

97/100, SAM KIM

"Immensely complex and seductive, the bouquet shows dark berry, bouquet garni, game, dried mushroom and toasted nut aromas. It's superbly concentrated on the palate delivering outstanding depth and breath, combined with seamless texture and beautifully infused tannins. Symphonic and engaging with an impressively long gratifying finish. At its best: now to 2035."

95/100, CAMERON DOUGLAS

"The bouquet immediately speaks of place with a limestone and clay soil voice then fresh red berry fruits and layers of judiciously used barrel. Complex, youthful and fine. On the palate a delicious wine with textures from fine polished tannins, medium+ acid line and flavours that reflect the bouquet. There's a completeness on the palate, a refinement that can only come from capturing the voice of the vineyard and clever winemaking. Length and well made with best drinking from 2025 through 2035."

