

# BLUE EARTH ESTATE PINOT GRIS

• 2016 •

*Wine From Martinborough, Aotearoa New Zealand*

## TASTING NOTES

Aromas of ripe stone fruit, together with notes of honeysuckle, pear and subtle oak spice meld beautifully on the nose to form an attractive and refined wine. White pear and honeysuckle with ginger and floral notes come together beautifully on the nose to form an attractive and refined wine. Dry in style, the palate shows lovely weight and texture without cloying and has lovely fleshy stone fruit characters throughout the palate providing flesh and depth of flavour. A beautiful lingering finish rounds off a serious yet approachable style of Pinot Gris.

## THE VINEYARD

This family owned and operated vineyard is on an old river terrace at the south end of Te Muna Valley. The stony soils with an underlay of limestone, a gentle north facing slope and exposure to westerly winds produce low volume crops of high intensity.

## VINIFICATION

The fruit was carefully hand harvested and sorted before entering the winery. We gently whole bunch pressed the grapes and left the juice to settle for two days. The juice was then racked to tank where it was fermented using selected yeast to give finesse and aromatic intensity. At the end of ferment the wine was transferred to four old French oak barrels and aged on lees for a further five months before racking and blending. This has given the wine depth and richness on the palate.

## THE SEASON

The 2016 vintage was highlighted by the El Nino weather pattern bringing with it long sunny days and little rain. This gave one of the driest summer and autumn periods on record, with only 228 mm of rain compared to a long term average of 500mm. The warm and sunny conditions continued right through the harvest enabling hand picking to take place at optimum ripeness. 2016 is another excellent year for the region, with forward fruit expression, soft rounded tannins and lovely elegance.

# Blue Earth

ESTATE



## INFORMATION

**REGION:** Martinborough

**OAK MATURATION:** 5 months in old French oak barrels

**CLONE:** Lincoln Berrysmith

**HARVEST DATE:** 28th April 2016

**HARVEST ANALYSIS:** 23.2 Brix 3.32 pH 8.63 g/L TA

**BOTTLING DATE:** 6th March 2017

**WINE ANALYSIS:** 3.30 pH 6.25 g/L TA 13.5% Alc 2.0 g/L RS

## CONTACT

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