

JEUNESSE YOUNG VINE PINOT NOIR

Vines in their youth, or Jeunesse, are not yet mature enough to communicate fully all the complexities of their soils and site. Issued from several younger parcels within Rippon, Jeunesse therefore remains a pure and precise expression of its variety: Pinot Noir. It is the spirited voice of Pinot Noir grown at Rippon, rather than the voice of the land from which it came.

FORM AND FEEL

Bright, vibrant, enchanting, animated, endearing



RIPPON MATURE VINE PINOT NOIR

The farm voice of a distinct parcel of land: Rippon. On the western board of Roy's Bay, Lake Wanaka, Rippon's north-facing escarpment forms the meeting point of terminal moraines and coarse gravels, all based in schist, on which some of the region's earliest vines were planted. Rippon is a wine issued from all of the fully developed Pinot Noir vines growing in this land.

FORM AND FEEL

Detailed, foliated, fine, focussed, complete



EMMA'S BLOCK MATURE VINE PINOT NOIR

A unique parcel within Rippon, Emma's Block faces eastward on the lake front where ancient clay reefs run laterally through fine schist gravels. Emma's Block is named after the great-great-great grandmother of the current generation of the Mills family, through whom the name entered into the family.

FORM AND FEEL

Detailed, sleek, fine, glide, animated femininity



TINKER'S FIELD MATURE VINE PINOT NOIR

A unique parcel within Rippon, Tinker's Field is a gentle, north facing slope formed by an ancient ejection cone of coarse schist gravels. Tinker's Field is home to the oldest vines on the property and is named after Rippon's visionary founder, Rolfe Mills (Tink to his friends), and the land that he had dreamed of farming since childhood.

FORM AND FEEL

Layered, detailed, compressed power, precise, unforced masculinity

THE FARM VOICE

In 1912, Sir Percy Sargood (Emma Rippon's grandson) purchased Wanaka Station. In the early 1970s, Rolfe Mills (Percy Sargood's grandson) and his wife Lois took a section of this land, one of the last vestiges of the original Wanaka Station, and created Rippon. The family now farms this land as a complete and living whole.

It is through the farm's vines that the integrity of the land, delivered in its vinous form, is maintained and communicated, fostering a liquid informant of Rippon's natural and cultured attributes.

How quantifiable are these? With the broadest objective lens there is latitude, the metamorphic schist, the proximity of the Main Divide, the lake's thermal mass, the buffering of Ruby Island and Waterfall Creek and over 50 years of empirical observation and understanding. Look again and find no irrigation, fungus-rich compost, the twisted journey of the vine root, biodynamic preparations, actions with intent, the hand-shake at the start of the day, the cleansing ale at its end.

It is of course the relationship between all these things, along with the willing mind to appreciate them, which makes a place ... and finds its true voice.

From this dynamic whole, the wines issued from the younger vines are removed, as, at this stage, they are more defined by their variety, Pinot Noir, than their place. This is what we call Jeunesse. What's left is Rippon.

As time moves on and vines get more and more adept at accurately reflecting their site, individual notes or parcels within that voice start to make themselves heard.

Tinker's Field and Emma's Block are two such parcels which consistently stand out as particularly unique components to the farm voice. For these, as with all the many parcels Rippon has within its vineyard, they are picked, vinified, barrelled and blended apart. A small portion, equivalent to 100 cases of each of Emma's Block and Tinker's Field, is taken and bottled separately. Each parcel's greater share is then blended back into the Rippon, Mature Vine Pinot Noir.

The voice of the farm as a whole maintains its integrity.



RIPPON
PINOT NOIR FAMILY