



## FELTON ROAD

### Recent Reviews

### Wine Spectator TOP 100

#### About the List

#### We've revealed the Top 100 of 2020!

Each year, Wine Spectator editors survey the wines reviewed over the previous 12 months and select our Top 100, based on quality, value, availability and excitement. This annual list honors successful wineries, regions and vintages around the world.

#### RATING #14

#### Felton Road Pinot Noir Central Otago Bannockburn 2018 +

Aromatic and expressive, with raspberry, cherry and fresh herb notes that are precise on a smooth and supple frame, offering details of matcha green tea, white pepper and forest floor. A hint of fresh nutmeg lingers on the long, expressive finish, where the tannins provide a slight grip. Drink now through 2034. 5,372 cases made, 199 cases imported. —MW

Price \$52 **SCORE 95**

December, 2020

### Wine Spectator

- MaryAnn Worobiec  
April 22, 2020 Issue

#### FELTON ROAD

#### Pinot Noir Central Otago Block 5 2018

94 points | \$82 | Red

Juicy flavors of maraschino cherry, strawberry preserves and black cherry compote are fleshy and forward, but more complex nuances of spice, herb, forest floor and white pepper emerge slowly, creating a tremendous sense of harmony on the finish, which goes on and on. The tannins are velvety, imparting an appealing sense of traction. Drink now through 2031.

#### FELTON ROAD

#### Pinot Noir Central Otago Calvert 2018

93 points | \$62 | Red

Distinctive, firm and focused, with a note of minerality weaving around the dried berry and cherry flavors at the core. Touches of spice, black tea and dark chocolate linger. Drink now through 2034.

#### FELTON ROAD

#### Pinot Noir Central Otago Block 3 2018

92 points | \$82 | Red

Supple and elegant, featuring fresh raspberry and wild strawberry flavors that reveal a thread of cream soda and spice running through. Pretty details of fresh sage, thyme and cinnamon linger on the finish. Drink now through 2030.

#### FELTON ROAD

#### Pinot Noir Central Otago Cornish Point 2018

91 points | \$62 | Red

A fresh, juicy mix of raspberry, strawberry and pomegranate flavors that are pure and intense, with hints of spice, cedar and tobacco lingering in the background. Firming tannins. Drink now through 2032.

### GOURMET TRAVELLER

Oct/Nov 2020  
Bob Campbell, MW

#### TOP NEW RELEASE WINES

#### 2019 Felton Road Block 3 Pinot Noir, Central Otago, NZ\$109/A\$125

From a wet, warm vintage that produced many excellent examples of pinot noir, with this being one of the best. Intense, elegant and complex with floral/rose petal, dark cherry, plum, raspberry, five spice, dried herb and a suggestion of toasty oak flavours. An initial hint of sweet fruit is balanced by stemmy tannins that are more pronounced on an impressively lengthy finish. Will benefit from aeration. Good cellaring potential.

96 ★★★★★

#### 2019 Felton Road Bannockburn Pinot Noir, Central Otago, A\$77/NZ\$55

Attractively aromatic with floral and berry notes that repeat on the palate, and are joined by ripe stems, dried herb and spicy oak flavours. A backbone of peppery tannins suggest obvious cellaring potential but appealing fruit sweetness makes it accessible now.

96 ★★★★★

#### 2019 Felton Road Chardonnay, Central Otago, A\$60/NZ\$50

A chardonnay of purity and power with saline/oyster shell, floral/white flowers, citrus/lemon and ginger plus a suggestion of white peach. Alcohol sweetness is nicely balanced by crisp acidity that helps drive a lengthy, mouth-watering finish.

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**FELTON ROAD PINOT NOIR CENTRAL OTAGO BLOCK 5 2019**

Very fragrant nose here with deeply woven complexity. Earthy nuances, bracken, leaves and spiced red cherries abound with roses and violets, as well as blueberries. The palate has long tannins that extrude deep along a central spine. Lots of blueberry and red-cherry flavors. The contained, fleshy feel of the palate is really something and this always powerful wine is in such, supple and fluid form. Drink or hold. **Score 98**

**FELTON ROAD PINOT NOIR CENTRAL OTAGO CALVERT 2019**

A very vibrant and ripe Calvert with attractively spicy oak integration, as well as abundant red and dark cherries. Super fragrant. The palate is so silky and plush, packed with concentrated, fresh red-cherry flavor. Blueberry finish. Drink or hold. Screw cap. **Score 96**

**FELTON ROAD CHARDONNAY CENTRAL OTAGO BLOCK 2 2019**

Rich peach and lemon-curd aromas here, with strong fruit focus, some oak spice and light nougat notes. The palate has a composed, softly fleshy and gently creamy feel with banana and vanilla-laced pear flavors. Super composed. Drink now. Screw cap. **Score 93**

**FELTON ROAD BLOCK 1 RIESLING 2020**

Aromas of white peach and nectarine are fresh and mouthwateringly pure. There's a gently stony edge below. The palate has a very astutely struck balance between acidity and sugar and delivers a long, incredibly intense, sweet lime core. Scintillatingly pure. From biodynamically grown grapes. Drink or hold. Screw cap. **Score 97**

**FELTON ROAD BANNOCKBURN RIESLING 2020**

There are aromas of lime pie and some light fresh herbs, as well as white peach and pastry. The palate has impressive concentration and deep-set lime and sweet apple flavors. Treads the off-dry line nicely. Super fresh, pithy resolve. From biodynamically grown grapes. Drink or hold. **Score 94**

**FELTON ROAD DRY RIESLING 2020**

Stunningly fresh and flinty with spice and white-pepper edges to the sliced green apples, white flowers and fresh, leafy-herb notes. The palate has a very punchy, tight-wound entry and then layers out some handy fruit flesh that heads through apple and citrus to peach and nectarine. Super pure. From biodynamically grown grapes. Drink or hold. **Score 94**

**The Real Review**

A L L I A N C E

5 Jul, 2020

**Felton Road Wines Block 3 Pinot Noir 2019**

Powerful, elegant and potentially very complex pinot noir with floral, rose petal, dark cherry, plum, raspberry, five spice, dried herb and a suggestion of toasty oak flavours. The wine became more accessible as it sat in the glass and deserves to be aerated. An initial hint of sweet fruit is balanced by stemmy tannins that are more pronounced on an impressively lengthy finish. A great cellaring prospect.

**98/100 ★★★★★**

**Felton Road Wines Bannockburn Chardonnay 2019**

Taut, vibrant chardonnay with saline, oyster shell, floral, white flowers, citrus-lemon and ginger plus a suggestion of white peach. A hint of alcohol sweetness is perfectly balanced by crisp acidity to give a gently mouth-watering finish. Can be appreciated now but should develop well with bottle age.

**96/100 ★★★★★**

**Felton Road Wines Bannockburn Pinot Noir 2019**

Attractive aroma with floral and berry notes that repeat on the palate and are joined by ripe stems, dried herb and spicy oak flavours. Quite a firmly-structured pinot with peppery tannins and obvious cellaring potential. Good intensity and a lingering finish. A distinctive wine with a character all of its own.

**96/100 ★★★★★**

**Felton Road Wines Cornish Point Pinot Noir 2019**

Savoury and dried herbs evident on the aroma with floral, violet, dark cherry and berry, grape stems and spicy oak. Made using 25% whole clusters in the fermentation, which might explain a firm tannic structure that makes the wine slightly closed at this stage but suggests a promising future.

**95/100 ★★★★★**



**THE NEW FELTON ROAD WINES 19/20**  
JoelleThomson.com • 13 November 2020

**2019 Felton Road Block 2 Chardonnay**

East facing site with more pronounced acidity which provides this wine with its zingy, fresh,

smooth and extremely long finish; a stellar wine with flavour from fruit and citrusy appeal rather than flinty reductive character. A great white.

**18.5/20**

**2019 Felton Road Block 6 Chardonnay**

Block 6 is a north facing warmer site and produces more broad fruit expression; more fruit expression. This is the best of the three Chardonnays; it has an extremely commanding style. 16 months in barrel. Texturally wines can benefit from longer air time in barrel. No inert gas used in the winery.

**17.5/20**

**2019 Felton Road Bannockburn Chardonnay**

A blend of several vineyards; less than 5% new oak for 13 months; the idea is to make a classic expression of Central Otago Chardonnay with lees influence, without chasing sulphides in a strong way. No fining or filtration in order to preserve the maximum expression of Chardonnay — which is also the rationale behind the low use of oak. As Walter says: "Why would we want our Chardonnays to smell of French oak when we are capturing beautiful fruit flavours."

**17.5/20**

**2019 Felton Road Bannockburn Pinot Noir**

Made with grapes from four vineyards; about 4000 to 5000 cases of this wine is produced every year from four vineyards. The wine is made the same way as Felton's single vineyard Pinot Noirs with 30% new oak for 13 months with no fining or filtration.

**18.5/20**

**2019 Felton Road Cornish Point Pinot Noir**

Commanding. Youthful and powerful in a silky, elegant style with 30% new oak for 13 months and no fining or filtration. Firmer tannin structure and more elevated acidity than the Bannockburn Pinot. This is a powerful, structured and impressive Pinot Noir which has grown from an initial 700 cases annually to about 1300 cases today.

**19/20**

**2019 Felton Road Calvert Pinot Noir**

My fave every year. I love Calvert Pinot Noir in the hands of Felton Road wines. This vineyard lies just below the hills of the Bannockburn gold sluicings and makes beautiful wine, one of my favourite Central Otago Pinot Noirs every year with its great fruit purity, approachable and pure with great 4.6 hectares of Pinot Noir.

**18.5/20**

**2019 Felton Road Block 5 Pinot Noir**

This vineyard has been in conversion to organic production since 2004. The wine has great structure, a full body, silky finish; it's drinking well now but tastes really youthful. Made from 26 year old vines.