



# FELTON ROAD

## Recent Reviews

CamDouglas  .com

July 4, 2020

### Felton Road Bannockburn Pinot Noir 2019, Central Otago

Great colour and concentration with a distinctive purple rim and hue. On the nose - dark fruited, quite intense and complex with aromas of raspberry and dark cherry, pure black currant then layers of brown spices. No mistaking the energy. The minerality message is quite strong with silty crushed rock suggestions. There's a fine savoury core alongside the fruit with dried herb and whisper of thyme. On the palate - youthful, tense, loaded with energy and vibrato, fruit flavours reflect the nose, a nut and toasty wood layer then medium+ acidity and polished tannin textures. An excellent example, reflective of a great vintage and worthy of your investment. Best drinking from 2022 through 2028+

**96 Points • Outstanding**

### Felton Road Calvert Vineyard Pinot Noir 2018, Central Otago

If you get the opportunity to visit the Calvert vineyard - and I hope you do - then the air and soil scents you can't help but notice are the first two aromas of this wine - sweet air and a clay-sand- gravel soil smell. The rest of the bouquet is all pinosity and complexity with scents of rose, ripe cranberry and sweet red cherry, there's also a savoury dried herb note adding further complexity and depth. On the palate - youthful, savoury, fruity and complex with a core of mineral and dried herb contrasted by ripe red fruit flavours. Tannins are fine and chalky, abundant and alongside the medium+ acidity - mouthwatering and just salty. The palate is long, focused and detailed. Great use of oak with just enough to notice adding flavour, texture and depth. Well made with best drinking from 2022 through 2032+

**95 Points • Outstanding**

### Felton Road Block 3 Pinot Noir 2019, Central Otago

Wow! A very complex wine with subtle synergies of fruit and flowers, wood spices and flowers, soil and baking spice. The umami effect immediate and seductive. There's no mistaking the primary fruit aromas as well with plum and dark cherry, dried raspberry then an array of baking spices and a touch of incense. On the palate - equally complex with textures capturing and amplifying the core of site with flowers then minerality with a seam of soil. Fine oak flavours of baking spice and mild toastiness. Fruit flavours mirror the nose, tannins are fine, chalky and abundant, acidity is medium+ keeping the palate fresh enhancing flavour. A very lengthy finish. A youthful wine with enormous promise. Drinkable early though best from your cellar from 2022 through 2030+.

**97 Points • Outstanding**

### Felton Road Bannockburn Chardonnay 2019, Central Otago

Sophisticated, pure, complex and detailed bouquet with aromas of red apple, white fleshed stone fruits and wild white flowers followed by scents of new French oak with vanilla and cashew nut with a mild toasty note. On the palate - equally pure, vibrant, youthful and complex. Flavours mirror the nose with stone fruits and citrus, the a minerality now begins to surface with a fine stone texture. Then wood with fine wood tannins and medium+ acidity are yet to fully integrate, but they will in time. Lovely complexity and length with a fine silk texture. Best drinking from mid 2021 through 2025+.

**96 Points • Outstanding**

## The Real Review

5 Jul, 2020

A L L I A N C E

### 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 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 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 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 ★★★★★**

**restaurant**  
MAGAZINE

### Felton Road Bannockburn Pinot Noir 2018

£19.10 Cornish Point Wines

This wine's aromatic profile is sensational: dried flowers, jasmine tea, while the palate is as smooth as silk, with red and black cherry flavours.

March 2020

Jane Parkinson



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**93 Felton Road 2018 Block 3 Pinot Noir**  
(Central Otago).

Block 3 - one of Felton Road's oldest vineyard blocks at around 25 years - is located on some of the estate's deepest, heaviest soils. There's power here, and also a fair bit of oak influence, but there's elegance and complexity in spades. Raspberry and blueberry fruit combine with potpourri spice, vanilla, chocolate and a bit of earthy, Burgundy-style reductive funk. There's a lovely texture on the palate: silky with bright fruit, chalky acidity and a well-structured line of tannins. A slightly oaky astringency that should dissipate over time creeps in on the finish. Drink now-2030. - *C.P. abv: 14% Price: \$82*

**92 Felton Road 2017 Calvert Pinot Noir**  
(Central Otago).

The biodynamic Felton Road is one of Central Otago's most highly respected estates. The Calvert Vineyard is one of their warmest and earliest ripening sites, therefore this is one of the brand's more structured Pinots. It starts with a heady perfume of brambly red and black berries, flowers on their stalks, warm stony mineral notes and a good helping of spicy, slightly mealy oak influence. The fruit in the mouth is tangy, smudged with charcoal tannins and wearing a girdle of oak. Still a baby, this should age with grace and beauty until 2030 or longer. *C.P. abv: 14% Price: \$59*

**91 Felton Road 2018 Bannockburn Pinot Noir**  
(Central Otago).

This vintage of Felton Road's blend of fruit from all four of its vineyards still bears the estate's signature while being a little less cohesive than its single-site wines, like Block 3. It's softly spicy with high-toned red berry and plum fruit, green peppercorn and slight mushroomy notes. The palate is neatly structured, hugged by savory, if somewhat blocky tannins. A characterful and approachable drop now.

- *C.P. abv: 13.5% Price: \$52*

**91 Felton Road 2018 Cornish Point Pinot Noir**  
(Central Otago).

This Pinot, from a low lying vineyard almost completely surrounded by water, is simultaneously the most reductive, floral and fruity of this renowned biodynamic producer's lineup. The reduction gives a salty edge but it doesn't over power the plump cherry and plum fruit or rose petal aromas. The palate is nicely textured with a solid line of acidity that buoys the plush fruit and flows to a long cocktail bitters finish. While this lacks the vibrancy and elegance of some of FR's other singlesite wines, it's nevertheless an appealing drop. Drink now-2027.

- *C.P. abv: 14% Price: \$62*

Feb/Mar 2020

**95 ★★★★★**  
**2018 Felton Road Block 5 Pinot Noir,**  
Central Otago, A\$135/NZ\$109

Restrained and slightly bony pinot noir that's a little closed now and needs time to show its full potential. Perhaps a record-breaking hot vintage may have played a part. Hints of floral, cherry/berry, spice, chocolate box and cedar-like oak.

**95 ★★★★★**  
**2018 Felton Road Calvert Pinot Noir,**  
Central Otago, A\$99/NZ\$81

Seductively soft, delicate and graceful pinot noir with violet, red rose, cherry, plum and savoury characters plus a hint of spicy oak and cocoa powder. Elegant wine with impressive underlying power. Delicious now but with a track record suggesting it will age well.

**95 ★★★★★**  
**2019 Felton Road Dry Riesling,**  
Central Otago, A\$45/NZ\$41

Bone dry but certainly not austere Riesling with oyster shell/mineral, lime zest, orange blossom and Granny Smith apple flavours. I like the wine's youthful enthusiasm although others might prefer the mellow transformation that bottle age brings.

**98 ★★★★★**  
**2019 Felton Road Block 1 Riesling,**  
Central Otago, A\$57/NZ\$51

Wonderfully concentrated Riesling with ripe peach, nectarine, apricot. Lime/citrus and exotic floral flavours all under-pinned by exquisite acidity. An absolute prime example of Central Otago riesling. The only dilemma is whether to drink it now or in a decade or two.

**96 ★★★★★**  
**2019 Felton Road Bannockburn Riesling,**  
Central Otago, A\$45/NZ\$41

A wonderfully age-worthy Central Otago Riesling with mandarin, wildflower, lime/citrus and chalky/mineral flavours. Moderate residual sugar and ultra-fine acidity are interwoven giving the wine exquisite tension while restraining sweetness. Great cellaring potential.

**96 ★★★★★**  
**2018 Felton Road Block 2 Chardonnay,**  
Central Otago, A\$95/NZ\$66

Old vines (27 years) from schist soils in The Elms vineyard have produced a taut, seamless chardonnay with white peach, citrus, lime blossom and wet stone/mineral characters. Power and purity delivered with consummate subtlety.

**96 ★★★★★**  
**2018 Felton Road Block 6 Chardonnay,**  
Central Otago, A\$95/NZ\$66

A richer, fleshier wine than Block 2 Chardonnay with peach, nectarine, a saline character that is more obvious on the aroma, and an appealing suggestion of white flowers. Plenty of power but with charm and accessibility. Should age well.

Felton Road Wines Ltd

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