

## 2014 Felton Road Bannockburn Pinot Noir

It is clear from the very first sip that 2014 is a very successful vintage for Felton

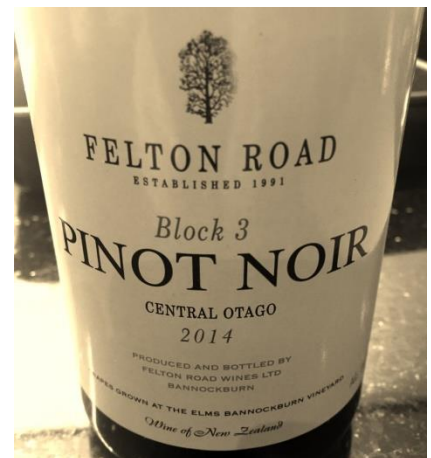
Road. This Estate (Bannockburn) cuvée is typically smooth, flavour-packed and yet tender already on the palate. The nose is a mass of swirling red and black berry fruits and there is a heavenly whisper of carpentry in the distance reminding you that the oak selection here is deliberately sensitive but also well-seasoned. This is a precocious wine, but I don't doubt that it will shut up shop soon and slumber for perhaps a year, maybe less, while it aligns its chakra, so try not to dive in too soon. One of the problems with wines as balanced and honed as this is that they flatter and deceive. Exercise patience and the rewards are always greater. **18+/20**

## 2014 Felton Road Cornish Point Pinot Noir

This is a much darker wine than the Bannockburn and it is more closed and brooding, too. There is more spice and more plum here and it seems more daring and less predictable than its diminutive sibling. The black cherry notes are particularly alluring and I am convinced that this is going to be one of the most successful Cornish Points to date. Alongside the ebullience is more polish and precision. This is a glamorous Pinot and it knows it. I don't imagine it will hibernate for anything like as long as the Bannockburn given that fact that it already adores being in the limelight. The only thing from stopping you drinking it early is the level of tannins, which is bold and well-judged. This should keep the wolf from the door for a couple of years at least. I am suitably impressed. **18.5+/20**

## 2014 Felton Road Block 3 Pinot Noir

With a little more structure but none of the overt juiciness of the other two wines, Block 3 is a much more thoughtful creature. There is considerable structure here and it is quite different to the Bannockburn and Cornish Point wines in the tempo and delivery of its wares. This is potentially a great wine. It is the first release where I feel the Village, Premier Cru, Grand Cru hierarchy looming into view at Felton Road. Before I was stuck in Village, Premier, Premier Plus mode. The fruit here is noticeably grander than in the other two wines, it is also wilder and more pagan. The oak is more liberally applied and it needs this framework on which to drape its kaleidoscopic fruit. I urge you not to touch this wine for at least five years because at the moment equal and opposite forces are pulling and pushing the detailed Pinot fruit in all directions. When this maelstrom settles I feel confident that you will experience a defining wine in the history of this illustrious estate. **19+/20**



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