



BOB'S BLOG

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Fascinating Felton

I play golf with surgeon, Ian Civil, a man with a serious wine cellar and modest drinking habits. Once a year Ian invites a few friends to indulge in a vertical tasting of a distinguished New Zealand wine followed by dinner. Ian has been a fan of Felton Road since flying from Vancouver to Auckland in the late nineties with Felton Road winemaker, Blair Walter, in the seat next to him.

The theme this year was a comparison of five different Felton Road Pinot Noir labels from the 2008 and 2009 vintage. I expected the wines from the highly regarded 2009 vintage to look considerably better than those from the large 2008 vintage but that certainly wasn't the case.

While the 2009 wines were all delicious with drop-dead gorgeous textures and seductive ripe cherry and plum flavours the 2008's were more aromatic and more complex with appealing savoury nuances.

In a word Felton Road's 2009 Pinot Noirs were sensual while their 2008's were cerebral.

Top wine, by a decent margin, was Felton Road 2008 Block 5.