



2019 CARRICK EXCELSIOR PINOT NOIR

Carrick Bannockburn Vineyard, SWNZ BIOGRO-5056

Named for the coal seam which was mined during the goldrush and lies beneath the Carrick Vineyards – The Excelsior is our finest expression of Pinot Noir. A single vineyard wine, created through careful barrel selection and prolonged ageing in the cellar before bottling. Each vintage of Excelsior we celebrate local and NZ artists, showcasing their artwork alongside ours. The 2019 Excelsior features a painting by local artist Rachel Hirabayashi - "Under the Lake" 2022 - inspired by the flooding of the Clutha River caused by the construction of the Clyde Dam.

Winemaking: The Excelsior is derived from two parcels side-by-side on the Cairnmuir Terraces, representing two different clones - 10/5 and 13. Each barrel was hand-selected from these two parcels and retained the cellar for a further 8 months of ageing. The blend had no new oak, instead 86% was second-fill, from two different coopers. Bottled without fining or filtration and further cellared for 2 years before release.

Origin: Cairnmuir Terraces, Carrick, Bannockburn, Central Otago

Hand-picked in: early April 2019

Additions: Sulphur Dioxide (PMS), Tartaric Acid, Yeast Hulls

Filtration and/or Fining: no fining, no filtration

Alcohol: 14.5% abv

Bottled: December 2020

Cases: 312 x 6 bottle cases

"The 2019 Excelsior Pinot Noir is powerful yet fresh, with notes of toast, vanilla and chocolate on the nose. The palate has superb balance, weighty and intense, but light on its toes. Notes of cherry, dark chocolate, allspice, raspberry coulis and blackberry intertwine, framed by powdery tannins and a long finish. Will reward those able to keep this wine, drink now or cellar for 10 years +"

- Winemaker Rosie Menzies

Organically certified since 2008, to EU equivalence.

