2022 CARRICK
Excelsior Pinot Noir
Bannockburn, Central Otago, NZ



Named for the coal seam mined during the gold rush that lies beneath the Carrick vineyards, The Excelsior is our finest expression of Pinot Noir. A single-vineyard wine, it is crafted through meticulous barrel selection and extended maturation in the cellar, revealing depth, elegance, and a profound sense of place. Each vintage of Excelsior we celebrate local and NZ artists, showcasing their artwork alongside ours.

Season Summary
A later budburst and variable spring conditions gave way to a hot, dry summer, though intermittent rain through late January and February increased disease pressure and slowed ripening. Careful canopy management proved crucial in maintaining fruit health. A warm, dry finish enabled an early and compact harvest, beginning on 17 March, The vintage of 2022 produced wines of remarkable concentration, combining power and intensity with fine structure and balance.

Vineyard
Derived from Carrick's oldest vines and the original clones of Central Otago – 10/5 and Clone 13 – planted in 1994, on their own roots. Harvested on the 24th of March 2022, at optimum ripeness.

Winemaking
The Excelsior is selected from the finest barrels in the cellar. After an initial 10 months' maturation, 7 exceptional barrels were blended and returned to a combination of French barriques and demi-muids for a further 8 months of ageing. Following 18 months in oak, the wine was gently racked, blended, and bottled unfined and unfiltered.

Tasting Note
"Excelsior is the defining expression of the season– generous and layered, yet youthful, with many years of evolution ahead. Aromas of toasted oak, blueberry and fresh blackberry, are underpinned by savoury hints of salted chocolate and wild thyme. The palate is full and beautifully rounded, with impressive depth, fine tannins and a long, persistent finish."
- Winemaker Rosie Menzies

Technical
Total Acidity: 6.1 g/L, Residual Sugar: <2 g/L,
Alcohol: 14.0% abv
Clone: 13, 10/5
Vegan Friendly
Bottled: 23rd November 2023
Cases: 308 x 6 bottle cases produced.

Recommendations
Cellaring Potential: Best from 2026 to 2046

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