

AKITU, CENTRAL OTAGO, NEW ZEALAND

MENTZENDORFF
wine, shipped since
1858

AKITU 'A2' PINOT NOIR

akitu

DETAILS OF PRODUCTION

Established in 2001 and set in the heart of Central Otago's Upper Clutha basin, Akitu's 12-hectare vineyard sits alone at 380 metres above sea level on a stunning north facing slope. Set just minutes from Lake Wanaka the semi-continental climate, with high sunshine hours, hot summers and dry autumns help to create wines of amazing fruit purity and complexity. The vineyard is entirely dedicated to Pinot Noir, block planted in 6 sections on 250 million year old schist soils. 28% of the fruit was whole bunch pressed with the balance pressed as whole berry. Ageing took place in French oak, 9% of which was new. The harvest for Akitu 'A2' commenced on 29th March – 6th April 2018 and bottling 28th March 2019. The 2018 'A2' is made up from 27% 777, 17% 667, 16% 114, 15% Abel, 13% Clone 5, 12% 115.

TASTING NOTES

Unquestionably fruit driven from the moment of opening – gorgeous, rich Central Otago sensations - a festoon of dark plum and rose petal florals fill the glass. There is depth and concentration of aroma with subtle graphite, Turkish delight and a slatey mineral lift. So ready on the nose, but foremost this wine is hospitably fruit driven. Plush and pillowy entry with plenty of weight and texture to the dark fruit-focused core, plums and cherries galore. Very good power and intensity with generosity, cut through with fine acidity and layered tannin structure. Plush and comforting but with poise – opera, not ballet.

HOW TO SERVE

Drinking well right now but it won't disappoint with 5 years in the cellar. Pair with any Lamb from Yotam Ottolenghi, some middle eastern influence and a squeeze of lemon juice over the top to get your tastebuds really going.

“Intensity, an immediacy and engaging bouquet with a red fruit and savoury core, some wild dry herb, red apple skin, cherry and intense minerality. The oak message is distinctive yet mild with a salted cashew nut and spice combination. On the palate - tense, youthful, firm, fruity, savoury and dry. All the flavours suggested on the nose come alive on the palate, but this wine also needs time to integrate more to find its true balance. Firm tannins and medium+ acidity offer a strong foundation. A lovely wine with medium-minus weight, but lovely intensity and flavour. 93 points”

CAMERON DOUGLAS MS, 4TH JULY 2020
AKITU A2 PINOT NOIR 2018

www.akitu.wine

VINTAGE 2018
STYLE Red
BLEND OF GRAPES Pinot Noir
WINEMAKER PJ Charteris
ALCOHOL 14%

