

The CROSSINGS

AWATERE VALLEY, MARLBOROUGH, NEW ZEALAND – THE CROSSINGS

Picking Commenced: 19 March
Picking Ceased: 20 April

A prolonged period of clear sunny days, dry conditions and cool nights resulted in an early start to vintage. The earlier start, in addition to fruit thinning proved fortunate as the second half of the vintage was punctuated by unseasonal rain events. The rain and associated cooler weather slowed ripening and meant that in spite of early commencement, many of our blocks were harvested around the same time as the 2013 vintage. The extended vintage allowed specific varieties to be harvested in isolation – Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris in particular benefiting from selective harvesting and focus.

Vintage 2014 will be an outstanding year for Pinot Noir and the Aromatics, in particular Pinot Gris. Both varieties benefited from the warm, dry conditions leading up to harvest and have all achieved a good level of physiological ripeness. Sauvignon Blanc is also looking very good, in particular the early blocks that were thinned, with good flavour and concentration. Later blocks that were impacted by the rain pressure came in at a marginally lower Brix level than what would normally be desired. However, at the time of harvest, the fruit was clean and in the riper flavour spectrum. The resulting wines are incredibly elegant, showing lovely ripe aromatics with good balance of acidity.

