

EST. 1986



VAVASOUR

NEW ZEALAND

2020 PINOT GRIS

It's not just the grinding winds from the west or the imposing presence of Tapuae-O-Uenuku, the towering peak that looms over Marlborough's Awatere Valley. It's not just the deep, rocky soils formed millions of years ago by relentless glaciers that molded the landscape. It's not just the arid climate marked by sundrenched days and cold nights. It's the combination of all those things together that shape the inimitable character, flavours and textures of Vavasour wines.

REGION

The Awatere Valley is a sub-region within Marlborough. It has deep Greywacke soils compacted over millions of years by ancient glaciers. Huge boulders, carried down the Awatere River, are strewn across the valley floor. River shingles, gravels and silts help bind these large rocks. The vineyards are partially protected from the prevailing northwesterly winds by a broad range of mountain peaks. Awatere Valley wines are particularly prized for their intense aromatics, ripe flavours, dynamic textures and concentration.

VINEYARD

Vavasour's 85 hectare (196-acre) estate vineyard is located at one of the marquee sites for grapes in the Awatere Valley. The climate here is noteworthy for its wide diurnal temperature swings—an attribute that contributes to strong personality and incredible balance in the wines. The vineyard's soils are low in fertility and are comprised of stones and pebbles mixed with clay and loam. The rainfall ranges from 279-406 millimeters (11-16 inches) a year, very arid by any measurement.

WINEMAKING

The fruit for our 2020 Pinot Gris was harvested from our estate vineyard in the Awatere Valley. A combination of canopy and yield management ensured great concentration and flavour in the fruit. After whole bunch pressing, 10% of the juice was fermented in older French oak barriques. While in oak, the lees were stirred regularly. The remaining 90% was fermented in stainless steel with a selected yeast strain, allowing us to retain the vibrant fruit flavours of the variety. As a result, this wine has a lovely mix of freshness, richness and complexity.

WINE NOTES

The cool weather of the Awatere Valley brings out the brilliant aromatics in Pinot Gris. The bouquet of our 2020 is a beautiful compilation of fresh Doyenne du Comice pear intertwined with hints of honeysuckle and spice. The palate is rich, with bright fresh acidity and attractive red apple and pear flavours. A long finish with natural notes of saline minerality.

REGION

Awatere Valley, Marlborough,
New Zealand

VINEYARD

Vavasour Home Vineyard

WINEMAKER

Stu Marfell

CLOSURE

Screwcap

COMPOSITION

100% Awatere Valley Pinot Gris

COOPERAGE

10% fermented and aged in neutral French oak; 90% fermented and aged in stainless steel

ALCOHOL

13.5%

TA

5.7 g/L

pH

3.43

RS

6.00 g/L

BOTTLING DATE

November 2020

RELEASE DATE

December 2020

CELLARING

Drink now through 2028