

## PINOT NOIR 2014

### BOBCAMPBELL.NZ

Bob Campbell MW, June 2016

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5 Stars & 99 Points

Dense, complex pinot noir in a typical Ata Rangi style, with a nice mix of fruit and savoury characters. Dark-fleshed plum, black cherry with a suggestion of floral, mixed spice and sweet herbs. Spectacular wine with plenty of power and an incredibly lengthy finish. More accessible than the previous vintage was at this stage but showing great cellaring potential. The best Ata Rangi pinot noir I've tasted. Drink 2016 to 2028.

### WINEORBIT.CO.NZ

Sam Kim, April 2016

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5 Stars & 98 Points

This impeccably styled pinot offers power as well as elegance. The engaging bouquet shows dark cherry, violet, game and clove characters with nuances of cedar and dried herbs. The palate is beautifully ripe, concentrated and silky, and delivers terrific fruit richness backed by plenty of fine, chalky tannins. Youthful yet generous, poised yet expressive, and promises to develop magnificently. At its best: 2018 to 2030.

### MICHAEL COOPER'S NZ WINE BUYERS GUIDE 2017

Michael Cooper, November 2016

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5 Stars & Super Classic

One of the greatest of all New Zealand wines, this Martinborough red is powerfully built and concentrated, yet seductively fragrant and supple. 'Intense, opulent fruit with power beneath' is founder Clive Paton's goal. 'Complexity comes with time.' The grapes are drawn from numerous sites, including the estate vineyard, planted in 1980, and the vines, up to 36 years old, have a very low average yield of 4.5 tonnes of grapes per hectare. The wine is fermented with indigenous yeasts and maturation is for 11 months in French oak barriques (35 per cent new in 2014). From an early-ripening season, the 2014 vintage is deeply coloured and mouthfilling, with very generous, youthful cherry, plum and spice flavours. Concentrated, vibrant and savoury, with notable complexity and the structure to mature well, it's a very harmonious red, already highly approachable, but likely to be at its best 2020+.

### RAYMONDCHANWINEREVIEWS.CO.NZ

Raymond Chan, October 2016

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5 Stars & 19.5 / 20 Points

Dark, deep ruby-red with purple hues. This is soft and refined on the nose with harmoniously layered aromas of dark-red and black berried fruits with black cherry and plum notes, unfolding violet and black-red florals and suggestions of herbal complexities and spice detail. The palate is rich and plush with succulence and sweetness, fully ripened, but with undeniable poise from lacy acidity. The tannins are very fine-grained, flowery, lending a seamless and velvety flow. The flavours are beautifully mouthfilling and very, very long. This is a gorgeous Pinot Noir, so breathtakingly refined and seamless.

## GOURMET WINE TRAVELLER

Huon Hooke, June 2016

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97 Points

Softer and more accessible than the 2013, this is a superbly elegant wine with appealing purity and real power delivered with subtlety. Complex with plum, cherry, subtle savoury/spicy notes and very classy oak. Another triumph from one of NZ's best producers.

## TYSON STELZER'S AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND WINES OF THE YEAR 2017

Tyson Stelzer, Top 10 Wines under \$100, June 2017

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96 Points

A pinot noir of elegance and refinement that encompasses a core of deep complexity, founded on black cherry and blackberry fruit, even a shadow of cassis, rippling with layers of exotic spice. From the family-owned estate's oldest vines planted from 1980, this is a wine of silky, seductive structure, yet confidently enduring tannins, filling a palate of impeccable line and undeviating length. A brilliant, seductive and delightful Ata Rangi.

## RAYMONDCHANWINEREVIEWS.CO.NZ

Raymond Chan, April 2016

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5 Stars & 19.5 / 20 Points

Full, even, black-hued ruby-red with youthful purple tints. The nose is very full with softly concentrated and layered aromas of rich, ripe, dark red berries and cherries along with nuances of dark red plums entwined with fragrant violet florals, fresh herb and spicy detail. The aromatics blossom to reveal notes of raspberry liqueur, earth and minerals. This exudes richness allied to elegance and finesse. Medium-full bodied, vibrantly succulent and lusciously sweet fruit flavours of dark red berry and cherry fruit are harmoniously melded with flavours of ripe dark plums and fragrant violet florals, dark herbs, spices and red liquorice. The flavours are seamlessly mouthfilling and supported by refined, flowery tannin extraction, and enlivened by poised acidity. This has drive, energy and fine linearity, and the wine carries to a very long and sustained, rich finish of spiced cherries and raspberry liqueur. This is a beautifully rich and succulent, elegantly balanced and refined Pinot Noir with seamless-flowing, ripe flavours of dark berry and cherry fruit with complexing floral and herbal detail. Match with duck, pork, beef and lamb dishes over the next 7-10 years. Fruit from the oldest parcels, 40% Abel clone with the remainder clones 5, Dijon and 10/5, indigenous yeast fermented with 25% whole bunches to 14.0% alc., the wine spending 20-26 days on skins and aged 11 months in 35% new French oak barrels.

## CAMERONDOUGLASMS.BLOGSPOT.CO.NZ

Cameron Douglas MS, December 2016

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96 Points

Complex and beguiling bouquet of red berry fruits, layers of oak and minerality, a light dusting of dried herb and a core of ripeness. On the palate - tense, youthful and poised with flavours of red cherry fruits, mangosteen and currants, some fresh strawberry then keen new oak with fine tannins, light smoky note, plenty of acidity, poise and finish. A lovely wine with oodles of time on its side. Best not to open till late 2017 - decant for service. Optimum drinking 2018 through 2028.

## THE WINE FRONT

Gary Walsh, May 2016

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95 Points

Ata Rangi smells like Ata Rangi first and Martinborough second, and while obviously both are true, this vintage seems to deliver the full character of the vineyard. Am I right, or am I right? Typical perfume of roses and potpourri, cherries black and red, spice and a chocolaty flavour in the mix laying on a bit more seduction, in case there wasn't quite enough. Medium bodied, layers of silk and sap, mouth-perfume of roses and dried herbs, fine acidity and excellent length. Closes with a sappy/chicory bitterness that may polarise, but those who like a firm NZ tweak on the finish will take it with pinch of pleasure. Strong release from this great producer. Drink : 2017 - 2025+

## THE WINE ADVOCATE

Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW, December 2016

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94 Points

Medium ruby colored, the 2014 Pinot Noir gives plenty of earthy, red berry-laced characters on the nose with notes of red currants, raspberry leaves and cranberries as well as nuances of lavender, wild thyme, mossy tree bark and forest floor, plus a waft of fungi. The light to medium-bodied palate provides great intensity with red berry and earth layers supported by finely grained tannins and finishes long with some mineral hints.