



# VAVASOUR

2015 FELIX'S VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

*Awatere Valley*

## AWATERE VALLEY

The Awatere Valley is a sub-appellation of New Zealand's famed Marlborough region. It features a cool, maritime climate and deep Greywacke soils that have been compacted over millions of years by ancient glaciers. Awatere's vineyards are partially protected from the prevailing north-westerly winds by a broad range of mountain peaks. Vavasour's Single-Vineyard Series showcases the most exceptional blocks from our estate. The wines are complex, concentrated, individualistic and extremely limited.

## FELIX'S VINEYARD

In 1985, Peter Vavasour identified the Awatere Valley as the new frontier for New Zealand winegrowing and planted the first grapes there in 1986. The climate here is noteworthy for its wide diurnal temperature swings. Rainfall ranges from 279-406 millimeters (11-16 inches) a year, arid by any measurement.

Named after Peter's son, Felix's Vineyard was planted in 2003 at a select site within our "Favourite" vineyard. The coarse alluvium soils here are comprised of stones and pebbles mixed with clay and loam, and are known for contributing depth, tannin structure and longevity to our Pinot Noir.

## WINEMAKING

This special bottling of Pinot Noir showcases the very best of our estate and is made only in years when fruit is of exceptional quality. Careful canopy and yield management, including leaf plucking and shoot thinning, ensure great concentration and character. High-quality, low-yielding clones (5 & 115) have been carefully matched to individual micro-blocks within our vineyard. To extract optimum color, flavour and tannin we use traditional, Burgundian hand-plunging techniques during fermentation. 14 months in French oak barriques provides additional aromatics, flavours and structure.

## WINE

Our Single-Vineyard wines are pure expressions of their variety and true reflections of the terroir of our estate vineyards. The 2015 Felix's Vineyard Pinot Noir displays dark plum and floral aromas, with subtle hints of mocha. Dark, rich layers of fruit on the palate lead to a velvety finish.



**APPELLATION** Awatere Valley, Marlborough New Zealand

**VINEYARD** Felix's Vineyard

**CLONES** 5, 115

**WINEMAKER** Stu Marfell

**CLOSURE** Screwcap

**COMPOSITION** 100% Pinot Noir

**COOPERAGE** 14 months in French oak barriques, 25% new

**BRIX AT HARVEST** 23.7° Brix

**ALCOHOL** 14.0%

**TA** 6.0 g/L

**pH** 3.53

**RS** Dry

**BOTTLING DATE** 28 May 2015

**AGING POTENTIAL** 1 to 10 years

**CASES PRODUCED** 250