



**AKARUA**  
CENTRAL OTAGO



*Celmisia semicordata  
Alpine Daisy*

## AKARUA Pinot Noir 2018 Bannockburn, Central Otago

### REGION

Region: Central Otago  
Sub Region: Bannockburn

### VINEYARDS

Cairnmuir Vineyard 80%  
Kawarau, Clutha, Southview,  
Cairnmuir Rise  
Clones: 5,6,13, 115; varying rootstocks  
Aspect: north/north west sloping  
elevated glacial terrace  
Row orientation: east/west  
Soil: weakly structured light alluvial soils  
overlying schist rock  
Elevation: 270m  
Vine age: 22 years  
Trellis system & pruning: VSP, spur

Felton Rd Vineyard 20%  
Kofua, Kolo  
Clones: 5,777,667,115,113; varying  
rootstocks  
Aspect: north west  
Row orientation: east/west  
Soil: Young alluvial, schist based sandy  
silt and loams overlying schist rock  
Elevation: 240m  
Vine age: 22 years  
Trellis system & pruning: VSP, spur

### VINTAGE

Growing conditions: An exceptionally warm, dry spring and early summer gave us unusually high early season growth. Extraordinary summer heat brought the whole growing season forward culminating in our earliest harvest on March 1st. In late summer we had record high rainfall with relatively cool daytime temperatures. These cooler temperatures kept disease pressure in check and the fruit delivered to the winery by the vineyard crew was in excellent condition.  
Grower Degree Days: 1,283 GDD  
Rainfall: 426 ml Oct-April  
Yield: 5.5t/ha

### VINIFICATION

Whole bunch fermentation: 11%  
Pre-ferment maceration: 5 days  
Yeast: 50% wild  
Fermentation heat: Peaked at 31°C  
Punch-downs: Twice daily  
Post fermentation maceration: 6 days  
Oak treatment: 11 months in 29% new  
French barriques, medium-plus toast,  
mostly Alliers & Vosges forests

### TASTING NOTE

Deep and bright ruby.  
Multi-faceted nose of blood plums and red cherries; with star anise, nutmeg and cinnamon; and garrigue - brambles, wild thyme, heather, rosehip and crushed herbs. The palate structure is lithe; the acids are juicy yet taut, and the fine supple tannins lengthen the smoky mineral finish. The flavour spectrum finishes with earthy notes from the vineyards - schist gravels and river pebbles.

### Winemaker's Notes:

"I love the transparency in this vintage of Akarua Pinot Noir. By that I mean I can really see the rugged beauty of our mountain vineyards in the wine. The wild thyme, rosehip and scrubby brambles are so present, as is a perfume of the rocks and bony soils of the mountains. Vine age is really starting to play its part, as the flavours in the fruit reflect a picture of the vineyards in a complex and intriguing way."

### TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Vineyard Mgr • Mark Naismith  
Winemaker • Andrew Keenleyside  
Bottled • February 2018  
Brix at Harvest • 22-24  
Alcohol • 13.5%  
pH 3.64  
T/A 5.1