



PROPHET'S ROCK

Technical Notes

**2009
Prophet's Rock
Pinot Noir
Central Otago**

Brix at Harvest: 23.8 *Blend:* 100% Pinot Noir
Alcohol: 13.4% *Pinot Noir Clones:* Clone 5, 114, 115, 777
pH: 3.66 *Quantity Produced:* 2406 (6-bottle) Cases
TA: 5.6 g/l *Residual Sugar:* None

Vineyard Notes: The grapes were sourced from our Bendigo estate vineyard located in the Bendigo sub-region of Central Otago. The Bendigo Vineyard is located on the impressive north-facing slopes of Chinaman's Terrace. This stunning site has fascinating soil structures featuring clay and chalk sub-soils mixed with schist and quartz. Extensive canopy and crop management was carried out during the growing season to ensure the grapes attained full physiological ripeness with great concentration and flavour.

Vintage 2009 Notes: The 2009 season had a slightly early start and a cool period in late summer. The rest of the season was dry and even with a long autumn allowing extended ripening and full aromatic expression from a low yield. The grapes were picked in mid to late April.

Winemaking Notes: The grapes for this wine were handpicked and field sorted, once at the winery the fruit was 95% destemmed with a high proportion of whole berries going into the fermenters. After an extended cold soak the wines started fermentation with indigenous "wild" yeast. The fermenting wine was hand-plunged only and once alcoholic fermentation was complete the wine was drawn off its skins to barrel. The wine spent 18 months in French oak barriques from a variety of Burgundy cooperages and forests of which 37% were new.

Wine notes: Bright ruby in colour the Prophet's Rock 2009 shows rich raspberry and cherry with floral and spice aromas on the nose leading on to an elegant well-structured palate. Here the rich aromatics are enhanced by silky tannin and well-balanced acidity adding structure before leading on to a long rich finish. A versatile food wine that will complement a wide range of cuisine, this wine is a great match with lamb, game and salmon and will continue to provide great enjoyment to those with patience over the next 3-8 years.

Summary tasting note: Wonderful lifted fruit, floral and spice aromatics, rich, silky smooth, complex, absolute pleasure and fine example of what makes top Central Otago Pinot Noir so special.