



# AUNTSFIELD

NEW ZEALAND

## Road Ridge

PINOT NOIR 2012

Auntsfield continues the proud heritage of Marlborough's first vineyard and winery established in 1873.

Our Single Block wines display qualities distinctive to grapes grown within a defined area at Auntsfield Estate. Consistent quality and character over many vintages has separated these Single Blocks out as producing our Reserve Wines.

Road Ridge Pinot Noir - This small 3 hectare block is situated next to an old ridge line that runs through Auntsfield Estate. This unique feature has helped form a deep and very dense layer of wind-blown clay on its Western side where we have planted a single clone of Pinot Noir.

### TASTING NOTES

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COLOUR: Deep ruby

AROMA: Ripe Plums, dark cherry and raspberry aromas with lifted floral and dried cloves. Savoury aromas of earthy forest floor and warm spices.

PALATE: Rich weight with flavours of succulent plum, floral notes and dark raspberry fruit. Soft fine grain tannins provide a refined texture for the wine and a degree of elegance. The wine has a silky texture which leads to an ethereal, lingering finish.

ANALYSIS: Alc. 14.0% | pH 3.59 | TA 4.9 g/L

### WINEMAKER NOTES

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This fruit was hand-picked into small baskets then carefully and diligently hand sorted to ensure that no less than perfect fruit entered the winery. This fruit was then gently destemmed and moved to tank by gravity. A combination of indigenous and cultured yeasts was nurtured through fermentation in open topped tanks. Careful use of hand plunging was used to gently extract the flavours and tannins from the skins. Maturation occurred in French barriques for approximately 10 months.

### VITICULTURALIST NOTES

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Vigour and fertility in this block is very low resulting from the dense Loess Clay and the lack of top soil. As a result these 777 clone vines are slow growing but very even in growth habit. The cropping level is reduced to 2 kg per vine to maintain balance and results in fruit that looks vibrant, clean and expressive at harvest.



THE COWLEY FAMILY CONTINUE AUNTSFIELD'S LEGACY OF WINEMAKING AND GRAPE GROWING  
AUNTSFIELD ESTATE LTD 270 PAYNTERS ROAD, RD2, BLENHEIM, NEW ZEALAND  
P +64 (0)3 578 0622 E INFO@AUNTSFIELD.CO.NZ W AUNTSFIELD.CO.NZ