



AUNTSFIELD  
NEW ZEALAND

*Road Ridge*  
PINOT NOIR 2010

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 / crimson. Very intense.

AROMA: Blackberry and cherry fruit aromas with floral rose petal and dried thyme. Savoury aromas of earthy forest floor and cigar box and warm spices.

PALATE: Rich weight with plush juicy fruit of succulent plum and ripe berry fruit. The structure of this wine is tight with underlying minerality, bright fruit and soft fine grain tannins for an elegant finish.

ANALYSIS: Alc. 14.0% | pH 3.25 | TA 5.8

#### 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 2.5kg 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  
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