

Wairau River Riesling 2011

Country New Zealand

Region South Island, Marlborough

The northern tip of South Island has become New Zealand's most important wine region since sheep farming and cherry orchards were first replaced with vineyard in the 1970s. Much of the land is alluvial river basin with well-drained soils that provide an ideal environment for pungent, grassy Sauvignon Blanc. Pinot Noir from the more suitable clay slopes and Pinot Gris are also proving world-beaters.



Type White

Style Mineral

Oaked Style Unoaked

Body Style Medium bodied

Dry / Sweet Style Dry

Alcohol Content (%) 12.5

Closure Style Screw Cap

Organic / Normal
Biodynamic

Grape Varieties Percentage

Riesling 100%

Producer Wairau River Wines

Wairau River wines take their name from the river that runs through the heart of the Marlborough wine region. (Wairau is Maori for 'many waters'). The Rose family were pioneers in planting vines in the 1970's and after originally selling the grapes to other wineries (like Cloudy Bay) they launched their own label in the early 1990's. Today their foresight has created a very successful company which remains family owned and run. Wairau River is one of the largest independent wine estates in Marlborough, and the range of elegant wines is characteristically expressive of its Marlborough roots.

Awards 5 Stars in Decanter in February 2010.

Tasting (Long) The renaissance of this classic and noble grape variety continues apace, gaining fashionable status and a following from wine aficionados worldwide. In the Southern Hemisphere both Australia and New Zealand are making great examples of a dry style and this delicious Riesling, produced from old vines grown on the winery block, has typical notes of white peach and limes enhanced with subtle floral nuances. The concentrated palate has a wonderful intensity of grapefruit and citrus balanced by cleansing mineral acidity. Recently scooped a Gold Medal at the Air New Zealand Awards.

Tasting (Short) Becoming increasingly fashionable with wine aficionados, this Marlborough example is dry and aromatic with grapefruit and lime flavours balanced by cleansing mineral acidity. Recently scooped a Gold Medal at the Air New Zealand Awards.

Serving Suggestion Pacific Rim fusion dishes and gravad lax or rock oysters.

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