

# DEVOTUS

## DEVOTUS PINOT NOIR 2018

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Alcohol	13.0%
Total Acid	4.7 g/L
pH	3.62
Residual Sugar	< 1 g/L

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Date Harvested	21-Mar-18
Closure	Screw cap
Bottles Produced	2980

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### Viticulture

This wine was grown from our middle aged block, with vine age ranging from 19 to 27 years, and clones consisting of Dijon (667, 777, 114, & 115) and the Abel clone. Our vines were non-irrigated. Our farming methods were organic and sustainable. We controlled undervine weeds with mechanical cultivation and grew crops within the vineyard (such as oats, red clover and lupin) to plough back into the soil for organic vine nutrition. The 2017/2018 growing season in Martinborough was unusual, with extreme heat in Dec 17 & Jan 18 followed by a cooler late summer leading up to picking in Mar 18, so accelerated development early on followed by slow ripening after veraison (early Feb 18). Our vines were low yielding (1.9 ton/acre for 2018 vintage).

### Vinification

Picking by hand was completed on 21st March 2018 with sugar levels at 23.3°Brix (average across clones). After careful sorting 40% of the whole bunches were included in the ferment. Cold maceration was held at 9°C for 2 days. Fermented with wild yeasts from the vineyard. Peak fermentation temperature was 29°C. Total on skin contact time 12 days. Matured in seasoned French oak barrels for 10 months. No fining. No filtering.

### Tasting notes

Very deep ruby-red colour, a little lighter on the rim.

The nose has interwoven aromas of dark-red berry fruits, cherries and plums, along with fresh herbs, ripe whole bunch stems, and spice. Medium-full bodied, the palate is big, with dense ripe red fruit, savoury whole bunch stems, dark herbs, with some spice and earth. Persistent tannins provide structure to balance the mid palate weight.

Overall style is one of low intervention, a pure expression of the 2018 vintage, of the Martinborough Terrace, and particularly of the vineyard.

### Cellaring Notes

Very approachable now and can be confidently cellared for at least 5 years (to 2024).

