

# 2016 BLADEN PINOT GRIS

BLADEN WINES, MARLBOROUGH, NEW ZEALAND



## THE WINE:

100% Pinot Gris from the Bladen Estate Vineyard on Conders Bend Road in the Wairau Valley. This plot of Pinot Gris vines are the oldest in all of New Zealand, planted back in 1989. The grapes are all handpicked and whole cluster pressed. Fermentation was done using a very selective strain of yeast under cold conditions to preserve aromatic freshness and vitality. The juice rested on the lees for 2 months after fermentation to create richness and mouthfeel. Bottled on July 12th, 2016. Less than 600 cases made.

## THE ESTATE:

Bladen wines was established back in 1989 when Dave and Christine Macdonald left their lives in the city to follow their passion and dream of growing grapes and making wine. Along with their two children, Blair and Deni (whose names combine to form the genesis of the Bladen wines) they set forth on this adventure and settled in the Marlborough region along the banks of the Wairu River Valley. The first vineyard was planted all by hand in 1989. Today, under the guidance of winemaker Rowan Langdon and the consulting winemaker Sam Smail, Bladen wines produces small quantities of high quality wines from sustainably grown vineyards. The main varietals they produce are Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling, Pinot Gris, Gewrutztraminer and Pinot Noir.

## TASTING NOTES:

**Color:** straw gold

**Aromas:** fresh pear, lemon peel, wet river stones and hints of white flowers

**Flavor & Texture:** citrus and pear fruit lead to a creamy mouthfeel boosted by buoyant acidity; crisp, complex and elegant

**Food Pairing:** grilled chicken with a citrus-honey glaze

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