Ara
PURE MARLBOROUGH

Select Blocks
Pinot Noir 2018

Ara Select Blocks are crafted from wine parcels carefully selected from blocks throughout our vineyards in Marlborough. Grapes are chosen to showcase a selection of soil types and microclimates. Careful winemaking creates wines balancing Marlborough's renowned exuberance and expression with elegance and refinement. Proof life on the edge can create brilliance.

Harvest

The summer of 2018 boasts the hottest January on record in Marlborough. The heat coupled with low precipitation early in the summer contributed to quick-flowering bunches of unusually consistent size and uniformity. Careful vine management was carried out at crucial stages, including moderate leaf plucking to ensure light, airy canopies that retained enough leaf for full fruit maturity while not over-exposing the fruit to the heat. Underground, the roots struggled to find water, which created balance with the less vigorous canopy growth. Later in the summer, rain freshened up growth and allowed the vines to fully ripen the fruit before selective harvesting and delivery to the winery.

Winemaking

Ferment of each parcel of fruit took 12 to 16 days, peaking at 28C. From there the wine was put into a selection of French oak of which one quarter was new. Malolactic fermentation occurred slowly over the winter to retain the exuberant fruit flavour. The final wine received a light filter to preserve its delicate fruit and tannin.

Tasting Note

This classic Pinot Noir shows typical Marlborough aromas of red cherry on the nose, with porcini mushroom and earthy notes adding complexity. The palate is medium bodied, with fine grainy tannins, layers of red berry fruit and subtle smokey notes.

Technical Specs

Winemaker:	Duncan Shouler
Alcohol content:	12.7%
TA:	5.2
pH:	3.7
Residual sugar:	2.6g/L
Region:	Marlborough
Dietary info:	Suitable for gluten free diets

Food Match

This Pinot Noir is enjoyed best with a wild mushroom risotto.

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NEW ZEALAND
WINERY OF THE YEAR
2018 MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL WINE COMPETITION