



Astrolabe

ASTROLABE  
VINEYARDS  
WREKIN VINEYARD  
CHENIN BLANC

And now for something different. Wines in the Vineyards range demonstrate Simon's innovative treatment of specific parcels of fruit and his willingness to challenge the 'everyday' winemaking process. Simon loves to experiment while capturing the raw, ethereal and sometimes undiscovered qualities of individual grape varieties

Our grapes are sourced entirely from unique Marlborough sites to add layers of complexity to our wines. Each site was chosen for the distinctive flavour it produces. We work with dedicated growers who understand the rhythms of the land and know how to grow grapes that express the terroir.

Far up the Southern Valleys sits Jan and Andrew Johns' Wrekin Vineyard. Rich red and black cherry flavoured Pinot Noir is grown on a mixture of hillside and gentle slopes. The soils, based on glacial outwash, are some of the older in the province and range from deep loams to tight clays. Our Chenin Blanc and some of our Chardonnay are also grown on these slopes. Jan and Andrew have a strong commitment to organic viticultural practice, moving the Wrekin towards organic certification.

The Astrolabe Wrekin Vineyard Chenin Blanc is made from grapes grown on a loess clay slope. We hand pick the grapes to give a delicacy to the phenolics. The Chenin Blanc is partially barrel fermented with wild yeast for complexity and with the remainder in stainless steel to preserve the fruit flavours. All fruit is free-run to retain the purity of the fruit.

Simon Waghorn, Winemaker.

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2014 Vintage

“Yellow apple and pear flavors are ripe and plenty juicy, with a lime zest aromatic. Spicy and refreshing on the finish. Drink now. 250 cases made.”

89/100 - MaryAnn Worobiec

Wine Spectator

2016

“Fine, tight Chenin Blanc with green apple, mineral and a suggestion of roasted nut flavours. Bone-dry wine with a backbone of fine acidity that promises to let the wine age well. It’s good to see more Chenin Blanc labels on the market, particularly wines of this calibre”.

93/100- Bob Campbell

Master of Wine

April 14th, 2015

“Sweet aromatics of apple blossom and mandarin flower; fruit aromas of ripe red apple and golden kiwifruit; a hint of lanolin and loads of stony mineral attributes. On the palate – crisp, fresh, fruity and juicy, just dry with plenty of acidity and a core of apple and fresh fruit flavours; minerality and soft chalky texture, balanced, lengthy and ideal drinking now and through 2017.”

90/100 - Cameron Douglas

Master Sommelier

July 2015

“Showing good personality, the 2014 vintage (4\*) was hand-picked on the south side of the Wairau Valley and partly fermented with indigenous yeasts in old oak barrels. A fully dry style (3 grams/litre of residual sugar), it is mouthfilling and finely textured, with strong, ripe, peachy flavours, showing good complexity, gentle acidity (for Chenin Blanc) and a dry, slightly creamy, lingering finish.”

★★★★SILVER- Michael Cooper

New Zealand Wines: Michael Cooper’s Buyer’s Guide

2016 Edition

2013 Vintage

“A honeyed toasty note and dried chamomile accents contrast with the seriously crisp lemon, peach, green apple and grapefruit flavors. Shows nice intensity and juicy acidity, gaining concentration and momentum on the long finish. Drink now. 162 cases made.”

90/100 - MaryAnn Worobiec

Wine Spectator

September 30th, 2015

