

BIRD
Pinot Gris 2007
Marlborough • New Zealand



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Winery Principals Steve and Caroline Bird
Winemaker Steve Bird

Wine Specifications

Cases imported	350
Alcohol	13.9%
T/A	0.62 g/100ml
pH	3.35
Residual Sugar	0.49 g/100ml
Brix at Harvest	24.5
Cellaring	Up to 5 years
Harvest Date	March 24, 2007

Vineyards

Location

Old Schoolhouse Vineyard, Omaka Valley, Marlborough

Soils

Free-draining alluvial shingle subsoils with friable clay loam topsoil.

Vines

VSP trellising. To get maximum exposure in the fruiting zone, shoots are thinned and leaves plucked. Two rounds of cluster thinning ensure that all the fruit is hanging free and clear. Sustainable accreditation pending.

Vintage

The 2007 winter brought uncharacteristically harsh frost and the weather resulting in a significant reduction in crops due to poor flowering. However, the vines benefited from a forgiving summer with almost no rain, warm days and cool nights. The fruit ripened with consummate ease and the flavors developed a level of intensity and persistence seldom seen even in New Zealand.

Vinification

A period of skin contact after crushing was mandatory to achieve the weight and texture desired. Long, cool fermentation allowed the elusive fruit character of this wine to come through. No oak nor malolactic fermentation.

Winemaker's Notes

Overall Impressions

Great flesh and texture, full, round and rich.

Bouquet

Fragrant approach, stone fruit, pears, apples.

Palate

Stone fruits with hints of dried tropical fruits.

Serving Suggestions

The abundance of flavor and texture allow this wine to be matched with foods ranging from fish to light meats such as veal.

SRP US\$21.00



“Roseworthy-trained Steve Bird aka “Birdman” founded Thornbury Vineyards with his wife Caroline before setting out on his own adventure after buying the “Old Schoolhouse Vineyard” in Omaka Springs. This is a source of very natural, well-crafted wines from an experienced hand and certainly a name to watch out for in the future.”

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate April 2008