

BIRD

Gewurztraminer 2008

Marlborough • New Zealand



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Winery Principals Steve and Caroline Bird
Winemaker Steve Bird

Wine Specifications

Cases imported	112
Alcohol	14.0%
T/A	0.58 g/100ml
pH	3.31
Residual Sugar	0.59 g/100ml
Brix at Harvest	24.6
Cellaring	5-7 years
Harvest Date	March 27th 2008

Vineyards

Location

Old Schoolhouse Vineyard, Omaka Valley, Marlborough

Soils

Free-draining alluvial shingle sub-soils 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 Winegrowing NZ accreditation.

Vintage

A very warm spring resulted in outstanding flowering and fruit set, combination of careful crop and canopy management along with a hotter than normal summer advanced harvest by about 5 days. As the fruit was picked early, the late summer rains had no impact on the wine.

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 Impression

Exotic, full bodied, complex.

Bouquet

Fragrant floral approach, rose petals, spices, tropical fruit.

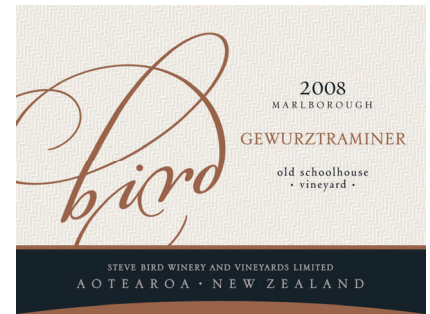
Palate

Hints of Lychee and exotic fruit, slightest touch of sweetness through the middle, finishes dry.

Serving Suggestions

Works well with highly fragrant, herbaceous and spicy foods such as Thai or curry dishes.

SRP US\$20.00



89 Points

The 2008 Old Schoolhouse Vineyard Gewurztraminer has very fine definition on the nose with touches of apricot, orange-blossom, nectarine and a touch of jasmine. Not too blowsy – more refined than others encountered in this vintage. The palate is medium-bodied, good balance and acidity cutting through that controlled aromatic fruit: dried apricot, a touch of spice and a hint of ginger in the background. Very refined: this is a well-crafted Gewurztraminer for medium-term drinking.

Neal Martin

The Wine Advocate August 2009

