

# BIRD

## Marlborough ♦ New Zealand

<b>Winery Principals</b>	Steve & Caroline Bird
<b>Winemaker</b>	Steve Bird
<b>Wines</b>	Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Gewurztraminer, Big Barrel Pinot Noir

### New Zealand

- One of the premiere wine-growing regions of the world.
- The fastest growing segment (45% in 2006) of the US import market.
- Wines command the highest average bottle price of all US imports.
- Image: “Clean and green”, pristine environment.
- Over 70% of wineries utilize sustainable grapegrowing practices.

### Marlborough

- Largest and best-known winegrowing area in NZ (62% of NZ’s total wine production).
- First Marlborough vines planted in 1973 (although evidence of plantings as early as 1870s).
- Abundant sunshine, cool nights and a long growing season help to build and maintain vibrant fruit flavors.
- Free-draining, alluvial loams over gravelly subsoils provide ideal growing conditions.
- Sauvignon Blanc accounts for 65% of plantings.

### Bird

- Steve Bird entered the wine industry as a schoolboy, working for a small, family wine company. He followed this passion to complete a degree in Wine Science from a highly-regarded college in South Australia.
- Steve and Caroline founded the very successful Thornbury Vineyards, which was sold to Villa Maria Wine Group.
- Small, family run Steve Bird Winery and Vineyards Ltd. had its first vintage in 2006.
- The winery utilizes cutting-edge winemaking techniques such as the “Big Barrel” method. (“Big Barrel” = 900L oak barrel which is both a roll-fermenter and a storage vessel.) Bird was the first winery in NZ to use this method, and the first in the world to use it for Pinot Noir.
- The winery is certified by carboNZero and Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand.



### Accolades

- “And why wouldn’t you choose this lovely Sauvignon Blanc from Steve Bird?” *SunLive, NZ*
- “Each time we try this Steve Bird Marlborough Sauvignon, it seems to get better and better.” *Snooth.com*
- “...this remains a top notch Marlborough Sauvignon.” *Robert Parker*
- “Artisan Marlborough wine producer...” *TVNZ*

