

FELTON ROAD BANNOCKBURN PINOT NOIR 2021

I tasted through a swag of Felton Road wines yesterday with affable winemaker, Blair Walter, all present and correct. There's a purity and restraint to all the 2021 vintage wines that I find very appealing, and I might even suggest that it's my favourite release of these wines to date? Bright, raspberry, spiced strawberry and cherry, but all the red fruits here, a little savoury umami/mushroom thing, and a rosy perfume. Medium-bodied, soft but correct acidity, and a whole lot of charm here, a light fine chew to tannin adds to it all, and the finish is good and long. It's a pretty wine, and so lovely to drink. I reckon it will show even better in a year or two.

Rated : 94+ Points

Drink : 2023 - 2030+

FELTON ROAD BLOCK 3 PINOT NOIR 2021

The 25th bottling of Block 3. Time passes! Tasted alongside the 2019 and 2014 Block 3 (I liked the 2021 the best).

Intense cherry and spice, more of a 'mineral' feel here with an excellent set of high quality tannin, they really lay out over the mouth, a twang of burnt orange peel, and a firm finish of good length. Intensity moved up a notch in this wine, and impressive it is too.

Rated : 95 Points

Drink : 2023 - 2029+

FELTON ROAD CORNISH POINT PINOT NOIR 2021

Tasted in a vertical of Cornish Point including 2021,2019,2018,2017,2015.

Bright red fruits, really pops, as do all of the 2021 Pinot Noir wines from Felton Road. Some rosy and floral perfume, a little spice, orange peel but also a blood/mineral thing happening. Lots of tannin, a Turkish coffee slurry of them, spicy and dry, some roast red capsicum too. Finish is long and impressive. Plenty of volume here, yet it keeps itself very tidy indeed. Excellent.

Rated : 95 Points

Drink : 2023 - 2029+

FELTON ROAD MACMUIR PINOT NOIR 2021

I think the first release of a wine from this vineyard.

Darker fruit than Bannockburn, more into ripe cherry, some spice and thyme, roses. A more firm and stony texture here, a smattering of amaro, dark chocolate, and a silty tannin finish of good length. More intensity, maybe less charm and drinking appeal early on than the other Pinots from 2021, though an excellent and powerful expression of Pinot Noir. It seems to be a wine that needs a little time to unfurl.

Rated : 94 Points

Drink : 2023 - 2029+

FELTON ROAD BANNOCKBURN CHARDONNAY 2021

Tasted in a vertical including 2019, 2017, 2015, 2013. Aside this current release, I really liked the 2015 (in the zone), and the 2013 was soft but charming. Winemaking consistent over vintages – 10% new oak, 11 months gross lees, full malo, late sulphuring.

Juicy stone fruit, almost into tropical, a little stuck match and cinnamon spice. Some almond gloss with chalky texture, a little sour yoghurt thing happening. An intense wine, with lots of acidity in the mix, and a long bright finish. Ripe lime too. Very nice. Opulent but tight.

Rated : 94 Points

Drink : 2022 – 2030