



BEL ECHO PINOT NOIR PRESS

BEL ECHO PINOT NOIR 2015

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate, USA

90 points

Pale to medium ruby colored, the 2015 Bel Echo Pinot Noir offers delicate notes of wild strawberries, cranberry sauce and cloves with hints of black pepper and forest floor. Medium-bodied with a taut core of red berry and earth inspired flavors, it has a good amount of chewy tannins and a lively backbone, finishing with an herbal lift – **Lisa Perrotti-Brown, June 2017**

Bob Campbell, April 2017, NZ

95 points – 5 stars

Owned by Sancerre producer, Henri Bourgeois. Delicately fruity pinot noir with an ethereal texture. A supple wine with dark cherry, subtle floral and spicy oak flavours. Very appealing wine in an accessible style. Made with a light touch. – **Bob Campbell, June 2017.**

JamesSuckling.com, 2017, USA

92 points

From older vines on stony soils, this has a complex nose with plenty of dark mocha-scented spices and a fine cut of sturdy tannin. Great length and build and plenty of ripe darker cherry flavors. Drink now. – **Nick Stock**

Wine Orbit, Jan 2017, NZ

5 stars – 93 points

The wine is beautifully ripe and fragrant on the nose showing dark cherry, plum, clove and toasted almond characters with a hint of game complexity. The palate is generously fruited and weighted, and delivers excellent intensity, wonderfully supported by silky texture and fine tannins. The wine is expressive and immediate, while remaining elegant and poised.

Raymond Chan, Jan 2017, NZ

4 stars – 18.0/20

Dark, deep ruby-red colour with purple hues, a little lighter on the rim, youthful in appearance. The nose is very fresh, bright and vibrant with up-front, aromatic dark raspberry fruit aromas, harmoniously melded with dark-red plum and dark herb, notes forming a soft, but concentrated core. Violet floral, liquorice and spice nuances unfold with aeration. Medium-full bodied, the palate features stylishly sweet, succulent fruit flavours of raspberries and plums enlivened by fresh, lacy acidity. The wine flows smoothly along a fine-textured line with satin-like tannins in support. Flavours of spice and liquorice emerge and carry to a long, juicy finish. This is a bright, vibrant and succulent dark raspberry and plum fruited Pinot Noir with smooth, fine tannins and fresh acidity. Match with poultry and pork over the next 5 years. Clones 10/5, 114 and 115 from 'Greywacke' riverstone soils, from vines 8-13 y.o., fermented in large oak vats to 14.5% alc., the

wine aged 40% in vats and 60% in seasoned French oak barrels.

BEL ECHO PINOT NOIR 2014

Cameron Douglas MS, March 2016, NZ

91 points

Sophisticated and elegant bouquet with gun metal and mineral then ripe light red fruits especially sweet cherry, soft rose moments and fine noticeable oak. On the palate – elegant, dry, pristine flavours of mineral and red fruits, fine tannins and generous acidity, moderate+ length, very well crafted example.

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate, USA

91 points

The 2014 Bel Echo Pinot Noir has a pale to medium ruby-purple color and profoundly earth and game laced nose over a spice box, kirsch and potpourri core. Medium bodied, it fills the mouth with savory and spice layers supported by very finely grained tannins and a refreshing backbone, finishing long and lively. - **Lisa Perrotti-Brown, March 2016**

Raymond Chan, Jan 2016, NZ

4 stars – 17+/20

Moderately dark ruby-red colour, lighter on the rim. The nose is fine in presentation with a firm heart of dark red cherry fruit melded with dark herbal nuances and notes of earth and minerals. Red florals and raspberry fruit emerge with aeration. Medium-bodied, the fruit flavours of dark red cherries and raspberries are up-front and gently luscious. Subtle herb, earth and mineral detail adds interest. The fruit expression is stylishly restrained, but the mouthfeel shows sweetness and juiciness, and is supported by fine, grainy tannins and balanced acidity lending a supple structure. The flavours recede as the wine flows to a light, dry, nuanced finish. This is a gently luscious, upfront cherry and raspberry fruited Pinot Noir with a fine, grainy structure. Match with poultry and pork over the next 4 years.

Michael Cooper Buyer's Guide 2016, NZ

4 stars

The 2014 vintage (4*) was estate-grown on the stonier, less clay-bound soils at Clos Henri, in the Wairau Valley, and matured in large oak vats (40 per cent) and old French barrels (60 per cent). Full-coloured and mouthfilling, it is generous, savoury and supple, with strong, ripe plum, spice and nut flavours, showing good complexity. Enjoyable from the start, it's also well worth cellaring. Certified organic.

BEL ECHO PINOT NOIR 2013

Bob Campbell MW, NZ

94 points, 4.5 stars

'Quite a concentrated Pinot Noir with black and red cherry, plum and spice/anise flavours. Sleekly textured wine with good weight and mouth feel. Classy Pinot with good complexity and a character that is more "vinous" than "fruity".'

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate, USA

90+ points

Pale ruby-purple in color, the 2013 Bel Echo Pinot Noir presents quite an elegant nose enveloped by notes of cranberries, raspberry leaves and violets with a touch of tilled soil. Light to medium-bodied with pretty red fruits and earthy inflections supported by chewy tannins, it finishes with a mineral lift. - **Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Dec 2014**

Michael Cooper Buyer's Guide 2015, NZ

4 stars

The 2013 vintage was estate-grown on the stonier, less clay-bound soils at Clos Henri, in the Wairau Valley, and matured in large oak vats (40 per cent) and old French barrels (60 per cent). Deep and youthful in colour, it is mouthfilling, with generous cherry, plum and

nut flavours, an earthy streak, ripe, supple tannins, and good harmony. An age-worthy red, it should be at its best 2016+. Certified organic

Wine Orbit, NZ

5 stars – 93 points

This is superbly fine and focused with engaging fruit purity and refinement. The delicately fragrant bouquet shows red cherry, floral with a hint of savoury notes. It's concentrated and linear on the palate showing elegant texture and plenty of polished tannins providing an extremely long and pleasingly dry finish. From their estate vineyard on stony terroir.

At its best: 2015 to 2020.

Certified organic.

Raymond Chan, NZ

4 stars (17.5/20)

Even ruby-red colour with purple hues, youthful in appearance. The bouquet is fresh and lifted with aromatic dark berry and cherry fruit, along with piquant herb and mineral nuances, the bouquet showing clarity of fruit and a steel vitality. Medium-bodied, the palate features a tight core of raspberries, cherries, red licorice and minerals, lifted with floral detail. The mouthfeel is fresh lively and bright from underlying acidity and along with supple, fine-grained tannins, carry the flavours to a vibrant and lingering finish with poise and tension. This is an elegant, tightly held and lively Pinot Noir with aromatic fruit.

Match with poultry, pork and Asian cuisine over the next 5 years.

Clones 10/5 and 5, grown on soils with Greywacke river stones, aged in French oak and stainless-steel tank for 12 months.

Certified BioGro organic.

BEL ECHO PINOT NOIR 2012

JamesSuckling.com, Oct 2014

91 points

Aromas of dark cherry and plummy fruit with a slight herbal tinge jump from the glass, along with hints of spice, roast venison, red licorice and vanilla oak. Excellent pinosity on the palate with an energetic acid line, deep, gamey dark fruits and a spicy peacock's-tail finish. Drink now. – **Nick Stock**

The Globe and Mail, July 2014, CAN

90 points

Like the Clos Henri above, this Marlborough pinot is made by the French family behind Sancerre producer Henri Bourgeois. The texture's supple, yet with a satisfying chalky quality in there, too. Raspberries and currants mingle with violets and hints of earthy beetroot and spice. Very nice – especially for grilled salmon or pork tenderloin. Available in Ontario. - **Beppi Crosariol**

Raymond Chan, NZ

4 stars (17/20)

'Dark, deep, black-hued ruby-red colour, lighter on rim, youthful in appearance. The bouquet is firm with an intense and complex melding of bright dark red berry and cherry fruits with dark herbs, minerals and a spicy, cedar and resinous-oak element. Medium-full bodied, full, rounded fruit flavours of dark cherries entwined with spices, minerals and resinous oak form a concentrated and rich core. The mouthfeel is balanced with fresh, underlying acidity and fine-grained tannins that build and add to the palate weight and intensity. The flavours flow to a firm and sustained finish revealing bitter cherry nuances. This is a concentrated and firm flowing Pinot Noir with dark cherry flavours along with some spice and resinous oak. Match with roasted pork, lamb and beef over the next 5-6 years. Fruit from 65% Greywacke riverbed and 35% Broadbridge clay soils, fermented in large oak vats to 13.5% alc., 40% aged in the large vats and 60% in seasoned barrels.'

Buyer's Guide to NZ Wine 2014, NZ

4 stars

'The 2012 vintage was grown on the stonier, less clay-bound soils at Clos Henri, and matured in large oak vats (40 per cent) and old French barrels (60 per cent). Deep and youthful in colour, it is sturdy and supple, with strong, ripe plum, cherry and spice flavours, finely integrated oak, and good concentration. Approachable now, it should be at its best 2015+'. - **Michael Cooper**

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate, USA

90 points

'Pale to medium ruby-purple-colored, the 2012 Bel Echo Pinot Noir presents aromas of kirsch, red currant preserves and mulberries with underlying touches of violets, anise and smoke. Medium-bodied and elegantly fruited in the mouth, it offers lovely harmony and expression in the mouth with well-balanced, finely grained tannins and seamless acid verve before finishing long. Drink it now to 2017+'.

- **Lisa Perrotti-Brown**

BEL ECHO PINOT NOIR 2011

Bob Campbell MW, NZ

94 points, 4.5 stars

'Rich, savoury wine with a great, almost chewy texture. Quite complex with an integrated mix of sweet cherry/berry and more savoury toasty, nutty characters. An appealing and distinctive wine - good food wine.'

Michael Cooper's Buyer's Guide 2013, NZ

4 stars

'The 2011 vintage was grown on the stonier, less clay-bound soils at Clos Henri, and matured in a mix of tanks and French oak barrels. Deep ruby, it is sturdy, with a smooth 'entry', generous plum and spice flavours, showing good complexity, and a fairly firm finish. Best drinking 2014+'.

Wine Orbit Magazine, NZ

93 points

'From their vineyard on greywacke gravels, this youthful pinot shows complex aromas of red/black cherry, game, spice and floral. The palate is beautifully focused and finely textured with bright acidity and fine, subtly drying tannins. Lovely structure and frame. At its best: now to 2017'. - **Sam Kim**

BEL ECHO PINOT NOIR 2010

Royal Easter Wine Awards, NZ

Gold medal

Buyer's Guide to NZ Wines 2013, NZ

4 stars

BEL ECHO PINOT NOIR 2009

Gourmet Traveller WINE Magazine, AUS

92 points

'A sophisticated and moderately complex wine which suggest the use of at least some whole-bunch during ferment to give a sappy complexity that promises to allow the wine to age gracefully. Cherry, spice and wild herb flavours'. - **Bob Campbell MW**.

Raymond Chan, NZ

18 / 20

'Bright, darkish ruby red colour with some purple hues, this has an intense and tight cherry-berry nose that shows attractively perfumed floral aromatics with mineral elements. The palate exhibits succulently sweet dark berry and floral flavours, the fruit still youthfully fresh. Firm, but fine-grained tannins are evident and feature on the long, dry finish. This shows lovely

perfumes, no doubt reflecting the Greywacke terroir. Drink with roast duck and mildly spiced Asian dishes over the next 4-6 years’.

Buyer’s Guide to NZ Wines 2012, NZ

4 stars

‘The 2009 vintage was grown on the stonier, lee clay-bound soils at Clos Henri. Matured in tanks (63 per cent) and French oak barrels (37 per cent, mostly seasoned), it’s the best yet, in a fruit-driven style with concentrated cherry and plum flavours, supple and rich’.

– **Michael Cooper**

Huon Hooke, AUS

90 points

‘Medium red colour, faint purple rim. Rich nose with oak and spices apparent. Just a whisper of cherry deep within, but has Burgundy-like restraint. Medium to light-bodied and savoury, with drying tannins from skins and oak, and a decidedly non-grapy personality, ending in obvious tannins which provide real backbone. A food style: not your typical Marlborough fruit bomb’.

Bob Campbell MW, NZ

93 points, 4.5 stars

‘Quite a sophisticated and moderately complex wine which suggests the use of at least some whole bunch during ferment to give a sappy complexity that promises to allow the wine to age gracefully. Cherry, spice and wild herb flavours. A wine of subtle power.’

BEL ECHO PINOT NOIR 2008

Bob Campbell MW, NZ

92 points, 4 stars

‘Light, dry Pinot Noir with savoury sappy characters adding an extra dimension to red cherry, floral and aromatic herb flavours. Fine, dry tannins provide backbone and extend the finish. An austere wine that gives a nod in the direction of Burgundy.’

Wine Orbit Magazine, NZ

90 points

‘A lovely elegant expression from Clos Henri, the nose is bright and delicately perfumed with red cherry, subtle spice and mushroom notes. The palate is equally fine and poised with persistent flavours leading to a pleasantly dry finish. A beautifully balanced and pleasing’

- **Sam Kim**

BEL ECHO PINOT NOIR 2007

90 points, 4 stars

‘Light, fresh raspberry and cherry flavours with subtle oak and a soft finish. Charming wine with the warm scents of summer. Its charm obscures a surprising amount of power.’ – **April 2009**