

PURIRI HILLS

WINE OF NEW ZEALAND

ESTABLISHED IN 1996 PURIRI HILLS IS A FAMILY OWNED VINEYARD IN CLEVEDON, PRODUCING ESTATE GROWN AND BOTTLED WINES ORIGINALLY INSPIRED BY THE GREAT BORDEAUX BLENDS OF ST EMILION AND POMEROL

2008 POPE

Pope is Puriri Hills' exceptional vintage wine that was first produced in 2005. It is only produced in outstanding years and consistently ranks as New Zealand's top Bordeaux blend. Puriri Hills wines are released five to eight years after vintage to ensure that newly launched wines are ready to drink upon release.

ORIGIN

Named after employee Ivan Pope who was tireless in his efforts helping establish the winery. Classic varieties of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Carmenère, (a lost bordeaux variety) Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec are grown in a single vineyard at Clevedon overlooking the Hauraki Gulf in Southeast Auckland. They are blended to create an outstandingly complex and elegant wine.

VINTAGE

2008 was an exceptional vintage, perfect amounts of rain and sun, all at the right times. Vine age is 7 to 11 years and the canopy and fruit are manicured by hand throughout the season. We are dry land farmers and embrace the practices of natural farming managing our vineyard with organic or biodynamic soil additions and manual canopy and understory work.

We handpicked parcels at the peak of ripeness in the second half of April. Yields ranged from 1.0 - 2.0kg per vine.

WINEMAKING

In the winery, bunches were 100% destemmed and 80% crushed into oak or stainless steel fermenters. Each ferment is cold soaked for 1-4 days to allow wild yeast development, then inoculated with oenological yeasts. Total time on skins ranges from 2-4 weeks depending on the varietal and the character desired. Free run wines are put to barrel and marc is lightly basket pressed. All wine was barrel-aged in French oak, 60-80% new, for circa 20 months before final blending. The wine was not fined or filtered. It was bottled under cork on the estate and aged in bottle before release.

TASTING NOTES AND REVIEWS

98 Points, *"Predominantly Cabernet Franc with wonderful perfume and spicy complexity. Dense but not heavy. It defines subtle power. Very seductive red indeed. Should cellar well. Layers of fruit, spice and hints of floral."* **Bob Campbell**
December 2010

"Splendidly clear and precise, sweet bouquet of ripe black berries, liquorice, cherries and graphite. On the palate, dense, meaty-intensive, perfectly ripe, with dark cherry and berry aroma, silky tannins. Perfectly ripe material, but the wine is fresh and rich in finesse, silky like a Pinot, peppery and tangy like a Cabernet-Franc, juicy (lush) like a Carmenère. Perfectly balanced. Animated and long-lasting Cassis-finale with chilly tanginess. A great concentrated wine of remarkable finesse and elegance, but also a remarkably deep fun-wine of the very highest level." **Stephan Reinhardt in Weinwisser, June 2012**

Technical Notes:

- Winemakers and Owners: Judy Fowler and Phil Nunweek
- Consulting Winemaker: Evert Nijzink
- Less than 2200 bottles produced
- 52% Cabernet Franc, 32% Merlot, 16% Carmenère.
- Alcohol Content: 14.2%.