

# POST EVENT REPORT

## THE NEW ZEALAND WINE DIARIES



**29 APRIL - 23 SEPTEMBER, 2020 ONLINE ONLY**

For more information contact [felicity@nzwine.com](mailto:felicity@nzwine.com)

The New Zealand Wine Diaries is a conversational webinar series devised during the lockdown globally to bring stories and discussions of New Zealand wine from some of the world's most entertaining and respected palates. The panel featured David Keck MS (USA), John Szabo MS (Canada), Ronan Sayburn MS (UK) along with a resident New Zealand MW or MS.

**There were four sessions as follows:**

### **Sauvignon Blanc - Get Past the Gooseberry, Let's Talk About the Wine**

With Jane Skilton MW as resident NZ moderator

The first episode in May tied in with #SauvBlanc Day. The discussion centred around New Zealand's most popular grape and its current position in the market, digging deep into where it has come from and where it is going. We explored the evolution of style and why Sauvignon is expanding far beyond the classic example, the tried and true and examined why is it important on a wine menu? And why is it no longer adequate to call it just 'New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc'?

[Click here for the recording](#)

### **New Zealand Wine in a Post-COVID World**

With Emma Jenkins MW as resident NZ moderator

This episode was an opportunity to look to the future and where the pioneering and entrepreneurial spirit of New Zealand winegrowing will take us next, in a constantly evolving wine landscape. There was a focus on new grape varieties that are gaining traction or deserve more recognition, with the panel exploring the exciting futures of more nascent regions, and diving into where New Zealand with its diversity of climate and viticultural possibility might be heading. There was a discussion about where the wines of New Zealand are best positioned on wine lists, in retail, and in global markets.

[Click here for the recording.](#)

### **Chardonnay & Pinot Noir at the OTHER 45th Parallel**

With Cameron Douglas MS as resident NZ moderator

This session took a deep dive in to two of Zealand's most successful varieties, Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, both clearly comfortable in the cool climate. New Zealand's latitude may correspond with other celebrated Pinot and Chardonnay regions, but the nuances of style are uniquely kiwi. The conversation explored the shades of flavour delivered from Northland to Central Otago and many regions in between, while tracing the rise to prominence of Pinot and Chardonnay in the shadow of Sauvignon.

[Click here for the recording.](#)

### **Organic Wine - Dispel the Myths and Embrace the Future**

With Stephen Wong MW as resident NZ moderator

The final webinar coincided with New Zealand Organic Wine Week and examined how sustainability, organics, biodynamics and natural wine all come together. The conversation explored the unique development of winegrowing in New Zealand which is based on organic principles - Biodynamics on the one side and wider sustainable practices on the other, as well as how low-impact winemaking is applied in the winery. The panellists then moved to a grassroots perspective, exploring the stories behind the wines selected to see how each winegrower embodied these philosophies in practice - voicing the narrative of New Zealand's people and places.

[Click here for the recording](#)

## ATTENDEES/WINES SHOWN

**421** TOTAL LIVE ATTENDEES

**912** TOTAL SUBSEQUENT YOUTUBE VIEWS

**34** WINES SHOWN

**12** VARIETIES FROM 9 REGIONS

### **12** VARIETIES

13 Sauvignon Blanc	1 Riesling	1 Petit Manseng
7 Pinot Noir	1 Albariño	1 White Blend
5 Chardonnay	1 Chenin Blanc	1 Syrah
1 Sparkling	1 Grüner Veltliner	1 Cabernet Franc

### **9** REGIONS

13 Marlborough	4 North Canterbury	2 Nelson
5 Central Otago	2 Gisborne	1 Auckland
4 Hawke's Bay	2 Wairarapa	1 Waitaki Valley

*"All-star presenters - very impressive."*

*"Great dynamic from everyone present. They speak well, are interesting and had great perspective and ways of explaining the concepts."*

*"The discussion was very helpful and interesting. Thank you so much for organizing such a session."*