



NZ
VINTAGE
WINE
AWARDS



ORGANIC
2018

Organic Library Stock Wine Awards

2018 Results

“We’re trying to remove the guess work of a wines short term cellaring potential from our awards, creating greater trust in our findings ”.

Our goal is to increase the market share of New Zealand’s organic wines domestically and internationally

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Foreword

The NZ Organic Library Stock Wine Awards (Vintage wine awards) was a launched in 2018 as a proof of concept, to both discover without doubt how certain wines are ageing, and to then promote the cellaring potential of these wines to consumers.

The concept proved popular among wineries, with higher than expected entrance rates for the inaugural awards. As far as I can deduce we are the only organisation within nz (or potentially wider) to attempt a standalone library stock (or vintage specific) award.

Our immediate plans are to seek feedback from those who participated in the awards, and other wineries in order to refine the format and improve upon this next year.

This year we exclusively judged 2013 vintage wines, which was 5 years after the current release.

We received 45 enties from 17 wineries. 2013 was a challenging, yet rewarding vintage for most, experiencing higher temperatures and more sunshine than usual, whilst receiving above average rainfall, especially early in the season.

Wines were judged as per the NZ Organic Wine Awards standard scoring criteria and then awarded a corroponding star rating (to differentiate these from the main NZ Organic Wine Awards accolades). A far higher proportion of wines were awarded than our mainstream award, especially at the higher end of the scale (5 star). we attribute this to both the increased maturity of the wines, but also the competing wineries being more selective about which wines they enter.

If you have any feedback or suggestions with regard to the format, we welcome your response.
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For full results and tasting notes visit
www.organicwineawards.co.nz
www.facebook.com/NZOrganicWine
[Twitter.com/NZOrganicWA](https://twitter.com/NZOrganicWA)



Observations

Pinot Noir

Pinot Noir is really the flagship varietal for the Library Stock Awards. This is the class for which the success of the concept will ultimately be judged, as well as the largest category. All of the wines sampled are ageing well and have matured nicely in bottle. Our judges felt some were reaching their peak, while others would continue to improve over the coming years. 2013 tended to provide lower yields for typical PN growing regions, although the remaining fruit was deemed to be of exceptional quality. Our champion Pinot Noir is the 'Domaine-Thomson "Surveyor Thomson" Single Vineyard Pinot Noir'.

Chardonnay

Chardonnay was the Library stock awards second highest largest class. Judges responded well to the the entries, awarding two five star ratings, and two four star ratings. Our champion Chardonnay is Rock Ferry's Corners Vineyard Chardonnay.

Riesling

We saw a good number of riesling entries from both Waipara and Otago. Overall the category performed well. Some of the bottles had developed a 'fizz' which we put down to an early harvest due to above average temperatures. Whilst not deemed a flaw by our judges, this may limit perceived complexity during judging.

Our champion Riesling is 'Carrick's Bannockburn Riesling'.

Sauvignon Blanc

Not a typically cellared vintage, although the increasing popularity of ML/Oaked sauvignon's will surely increase the potential for this varietal. The most successful SB's had retained a citrus spark, while being balanced with a creamy mouthfeel.

The champion Sauvignon Blanc is 'Rock Ferry Corners Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc'

Alternative white wines

Alternative whites did not fair as well as we have seen with the mainstream organic wine awards. Some of this may be that the vines for the 2013 vintage were particularly young, or in conversion in 2013. One exception is Quartz Reef's Methode Traditionnelle Vintage 2013 Blanc de Blancs which obtained gold, and our Sparkling champion.

Results

Champion Chardonnay: Rock Ferry Corners Vineyard Chardonnay 2013
Champion Pinot Noir: Domaine-Thomson "Surveyor Thomson" Single Vineyard Pinot Noir 2013
Champion Sauvignon Blanc: Rock Ferry Corners Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc 2013
Champion Riesling: Carrick Bannockburn Riesling 2013
Champion Sparkling: Quartz Reef Methode Traditionnelle Vintage 2013 Blanc de Blancs



***** (5 star)

The following wines have been awarded the highest accolades available for 2018. A 5 star library stock rating represents an exceptional wine.

Carrick Bannockburn Chardonnay 2013
The Darling Chardonnay 2013
Rock Ferry Corners Vineyard Chardonnay 2013
Domaine-Thomson "Surveyor Thomson" Single Vineyard Pinot Noir 2013
Terrace Edge 2013 Pinot Noir
Aurum Madeleine 2013
Walnut Block Nutcracker Pinot Noir 2013
Rock Ferry Corners Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc 2013
Huia Sauvignon Blanc 2013
Rock Ferry Trig Hill Vineyard Pinot Gris 2013
Carrick Bannockburn Riesling 2013
Terrace Edge 2013 Classic Riesling
Quartz Reef Methode Traditionnelle Vintage 2013 Blanc de Blancs



**** (4 Star)

The following wines have been awarded a four star rating, or highly recommended for 2018.

Carrick EBM Chardonnay 2013
Walnut Block Nutcracker Chardonnay 2013
Carrick Bannockburn Pinot Noir
Muddy Water Slowhand Pinot Noir 2013
Huia Pinot Noir 2013
Aurum Mathilde Pinot Noir 2013
Kaimira Estate Brightwater Sauvignon Blanc 2013
Carrick Josephine Riesling 2013
Terrace Edge 2013 Liquid Geography Riesling



***** (3 star)**

The following wines have been awarded three stars, or recommended for 2018.

Rock Ferry Trig Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir 2013
Peregrine Pinot Noir 2013
The Darling Pinot Noir 2013
Walnut Block Nutcracker Sauvignon Blanc
Huia Pinot Gris Dry 2013
Black Estate Damsteep Riesling 2013
Kaimira Estate Brightwater Riesling Iiti Selection 2013
Kaimira Estate Brightwater Pinot Blanc 2013
Aurum Amber Wine 2013



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