



**Aotearoa
New Zealand
Organic Wine
Awards**

2022 Results

Foreword

“We believe
organic viticulture
creates the
potential for a
winemaker to
craft a *superior*
wine”.

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

The Aotearoa NZ Organic Wine Awards is an independent wine show committed to discovering and promoting New Zealand’s best organic wines.

2022 is our ninth year of operation. Once again the number of entries has grown, signifying the huge momentum NZ Organic wines have.

The New Zealand Organic Wine Awards is not affiliated with Organic Wine New Zealand, or Wine New Zealand. We are however members of OWINZ and strongly support the work that they undertake.

Furthermore we resolutely agree with OWINZ’s stance on certification for organic vineyards. All wine submitted to the New Zealand Organic Wine Awards must be produced from 100% certified organic or in-conversion grapes.

We thank our sponsors Riedel New Zealand and Fisher and Paykel. Without your support the awards would not be possible.

Our judges remain impressed with the exceptional standard of wines entered to the awards.

I’m heartened to see the continued growth of the organic wine sector in New Zealand. The momentum is well and truly with us, and long may it continue.

Luke Thomas
NZ Organic Wine Awards founder

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For full results and tasting notes visit
www.organicwineawards.co.nz
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Observations

Our entry rates increased for the ninth consecutive year, however the rate of growth has slowed. This could be as a result of fewer wineries reaching the end of certification and becoming eligible to enter. Numbers of wineries and vineyards undertaking certification tends to be in clusters, presently there are a large number of vineyards early to mid-certification and respectively fewer achieving certification within the previous 12-18 months.

Winery entrants were up 4%, and total wines entered up 8%. A number of wineries that have previously entered wine have chosen to expand their entry to encompass more wines. This could be to capitalise on a good vintage, build on existing success, or as more vineyard is converted to organic. This continues the trend we have experienced in the previous three years awards.

A few previous entrants chose not to enter, in the main, timing was the issue. The entry is around harvest time and small wineries are very busy, as well as a time many wineries have lower stocks of wine. Our plan is to bring forward the awards for 2023, which will launch in January.

The dominant region (in the form of champion wines) shifted this year from North Canterbury to Central Otago, claiming 5 of the 8 available champion accolades.

For 2022 we issued 8 Champion, 31 Gold (excluding champions), 56 Silver and 68 Bronze. Organic Wine growing allows for greater expression of terrior, vintage as well as characteristics not typically associated with a varietal, we believe this impacts the judging of top performing wines, particularly when judging complexity elements, which increase the score, pushing more wines into to the 'gold bracket'. It is also worth noting that the entry standard for the Aotearoa Organic Wine Awards tends to be higher than many other

awards, owing to the fact that many 'Premium NZ Wineries' are also organic.

This logic correlates with over-representation of organic wineries in lists such as Real Review Top Wineries and the NZ Fine Wines selection. We did award less gold medals in 2022 than previous years, however this is likely due more to refinement and maturity of our consumer based judging model than a change in the quality of the wine.

We uphold a strict threshold for gold, silver and bronze medal wines, to ensure that consumers can be assured of a top quality wine from a gold medal winning wine, as well as from silver and bronze. Many great wines are not awarded a medal, however we want to assure our consumers the very best of what New Zealand's organic wines have to offer.

Pinot Noir

Once again Pinot Noir was the largest varietal category, increasing almost 15% on previous highs.

8 Gold medals were awarded to Pinot Noir's, 5 from Central Otago, and 3 from Marlborough. The gold medals were awarded to wines vintages between 2017 and 2020. Our Champion Pinot Noir for 2022 is Amisfield's Breakneck Reserve Pinot Noir 2019.

Sauvignon Blanc

6 Sauvignon Blanc's were awarded gold in 2022. SB entry volumes were consistent with the last two seasons. Of the 6 gold medals, 5 are from Marlborough wineries and 1 from Nelson. The champion Sauvignon Blanc is Tapi's Sauvignon Blanc 2021.

Riesling

The volume of Riesling entries are the highest we have seen, ending the downward trend for Riesling entries. 4 Riesling's were awarded Gold medals this year. The Champion Riesling was Amisfield's Dry Riesling 2020.

Pinot Gris

The volume of Pinot Gris entries dropped slightly this year, continuing the downward trend of the past few years for entries in this class. 3 Pinot Gris' were awarded gold, all heralding from Central Otago. This year's Champion Pinot Gris is Quartz Reef's Bendigo Pinot Gris 2021.

Chardonnay

Once again, Chardonnay was our third largest varietal class, close to rivalling Sauvignon blanc numbers. 6 Chardonnay's were awarded gold. The Champion was Seresin's Chardonnay 2021.

Rose

Rose entries were consistent with last years entry numbers. The concentration of entries was focused in Central Otago. We awarded 3 gold medals and the champion rose is Amisfield's Pinot Noir Rose 2021.

Syrah

Syrah entry volumes were up slightly on previous years. Gold medals were issued to 4 Syrah's, from Marlborough and Nelson regions. The 2022 Champion Syrah is Giesen's Organic Syrah 2019.

Sparkling

We saw an increase in entry volumes for sparkling wines in 2022. This includes Methode Traditionelle, and Pet-Nat style wines. 2 sparkling wines were awarded gold medals, and the champion is Quartz Reef's Methode Traditionelle Vintage Rose 2016.

Results

NZ Organic Wine Awards 'RIEDEL Wine of the Show': Tapi Sauvignon Blanc 2021

When it comes to wine of the show, our judges like to select a wine that stands out from its varietal class. The Tapi 2021 Sauvignon Blanc achieves this as a standout wine amongst a highly competitive varietal class. Tapi are a lesser known brand in NZ, based in Marlborough, with wines predominantly available in Australia.

NZ Organic Wine Awards 'Sustainable Winery of the Year': Wrights Vineyard and Winery

The Sustainable Vineyard of the Year accolade recognises where a winery has excelled above and beyond SWNZ requirements, and organic certification, including social responsibilities to sustain and improve the local environment.

Wrights continually seek to improve their practices, and seek out new initiatives. Their current projects include native planting, composting, on-premise vegetable gardens for use at the cellar door, sponsoring and support of local community initiatives and activities. Wrights are a shining example of how a winery can add benefit to the local area, both economic and social, whilst running a healthy, organic vineyard.

NZ Organic Wine Awards 'RIEDEL Winery of the Year': Amisfield

A second time champion of the Aotearoa Organic Wine Awards, Amisfield first received the Winery of the year accolade in 2020, and follow up in 2022. Receiving three champion accolades, for Pinot Noir, Riesling and Rose. Amisfield push the boundaries both in their onsite restaurant and in the winery, the rewards for these efforts are evident.

Champion Wines

The below wines have been awarded champion status as the highest scoring wine within their varietal class.

Champion Pinot Noir: Amisfield Breakneck Reserve Pinot Noir 2019

Champion Sauvignon Blanc: Tapi Sauvignon Blanc 2021

Champion Riesling: Amisfield Dry Riesling 2020

Champion Pinot Gris: Quartz Reef Bendigo Pinot Gris 2021

Champion Chardonnay: Seresin Chardonnay 2021

Champion Sparking: Quartz Reef Methode Traditionnelle Vintage Rose 2016

Champion Syrah: Giesen Organic Syrah 2019

Champion Rose: Amisfield Pinot Noir Rosé 2021



Gold

The following wines have been awarded the highest accolades available for 2022.

* *denotes champion*

Amisfield Breakneck Reserve Pinot Noir 2019*
The Darling "Arnst" Pinot Noir 2019
Two Paddocks The First Paddock Gibbston Pinot Noir 2018
Giesen Single Vineyard Clayvin Pinot Noir 2018
The Darling Pinot Noir 2019
Gibbston Valley China Terrace Pinot Noir 2020
Two Paddocks The Last Chance Alexandra Pinot Noir 2019
Domaine Thomson 'Surveyor Thomson' Pinot Noir 2017
TAPI Sauvignon Blanc 2021*
Richmond Plains Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Babich Family Estates Marlborough Organic Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Walnut Block Nutcracker Sauvignon Blanc 2021
The Darling Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Golden Mile Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Seresin Chardonnay 2021*
Richmond Plains Chardonnay 2021
Gibbston Valley China Terrace 2021
Gibbston Valley China Terrace '95' 2021
Greystone Chardonnay 2020
Amisfield Pinot Noir Rosé 2021*
Rock Ferry Orchard Vineyard Pinot Rose 2021
Terrace Edge 2021 Rose
Judge Rock "The Alibi" Blanc de Noir 2021
Astrolabe Wrekin Vineyard Chenin Blanc 2020
Amisfield Dry Riesling 2020*
Amisfield Lowburn Terrace Riesling 2020
Gibbston Valley Red Shed Riesling 2021
Astrolabe Grovetown Spätlese Riesling 2021
Quartz Reef Bendigo Pinot Gris 2021*
Peregrine Pinot Gris 2021
Carrick Bannockburn Pinot Gris 2019
Giesen Organic Syrah 2019*
Giesen Single Vineyard Clayvin Syrah 2019
Terrace Edge 2020 Syrah
Richmond Plains Syrah 2020
Terrace Edge St Laurent 2019
Quartz Reef Methode Traditionnelle Vintage Rose 2016*
Huia Sparkling Brut Rose 2019
Rock Ferry The Corners Vineyard Gruner Veltliner 2019



Silver

The following wines have been awarded a 2022 Silver Medal.

Two Paddocks, The Fusilier Bannockburn 2019
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Giesen Single Vineyard Ridge Block Pinot Noir 2016
Terrace Edge Pinot Noir 2019
Colere Fractal Pinot Noir 2020
Gibbston Valley Reserve 2020
Quartz Reef Bendigo Single Ferment Pinot Noir 2020
Rockferry Trig Hill Pinot Noir 2016
Two Paddocks The Last Chance Alexandra 2018
Amisfield Pinot Noir 2019
Greystone Pinot Noir 2019
Domaine Thomson 'Rows 76-89' 2018
Giesen Organic Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Walnut Block Collectables Sauvignon Blanc 2021
The Boneline Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Carrick Bannockburn Sauvignon Blanc 2020
BOB short for Kate Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Windrush Organic Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2021
Greystone Sauvignon Blanc 2020
Odyssey Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Wrights Reserve Chardonnay 2018
Tapi Chardonnay 2021
Astrolabe The Farm Chardonnay 2021
Giesen Single Vineyard Clayvin Chardonnay 2017
Richmond Plains Chardonnay 2020
The Darling Chardonnay 2019
Te Awanga One Off 'Uncensored' Organic Chardonnay 2020
Quartz Reef Bendigo Chardonnay 2020
Peregrine Chardonnay 2020
Colere Ashmore Chardonnay 2020
Domaine Thomson 'Pinot Rosé' 2021
Zephyr MKI Rose 2021
The Darling Pinot Noir Rose 2021
Peregrine Rose 2021
Astrolabe Southern Valleys Sec Chenin Blanc 2021
Greystone Riesling 2019
Carrick Bannockburn Riesling 2020
Terrace Edge Classic Riesling 2021
Terrace Edge Liquid Geography Riesling 2021
The Boneline Hellblock Riesling 2021
Two Paddocks Dry Riesling 2021
Terrace Edge Pinot Gris 2021
Gibbston Valley School House Pinot Gris 2021
Te Awanga Estate Wildsong Organic Pinot Gris 2019
Loveblock Marlborough Pinot Gris 2021
Rock Ferry Trig Hill Vineyard Pinot Gris 2018
Te Awanga Estate Wildsong Syrah 2019
Terrace Edge Chosen Barel's Syrah 2019
Te Awanga Estate One Off 'Dark Night' Organic Syrah 2018
Terrace Edge St Laurent 2018
Amisfield Brut Méthode Traditionelle 2019
Judge Rock "Guilty" Pet-Nat 2021
The Darling Organico Pet Nat Field Blend 2021
Greystone Petillant Naturel 2021
Terrace Edge Albarino 2021
Gibbston Valley Red Shed Pinot Blanc



Bronze

The following wines have been awarded a 2022 Bronze Medal.

Two Paddocks Pinot Noir 2020
Peregrine Pinot Noir 2019
Giesen Organic Pinot Noir 2019
Astrolabe Wrekin Vineyard Pinot Noir 2019
Colere Ashmore Vineyards Pinot Noir 2020
Rippon "Rippon" Pinot Noir 2018
Zephyr Pinot Noir 2021
Walnut Block Nutcracker Pinot Noir 2020
Schubert Marion's Vineyard Pinot Noir 2020
Gibbston Valley School House 2020
Richmond Plains Pinot Noir 2020
Domaine Thomson 'Explorer' Pinot Noir 2021
Terrace Edge 2019 Chosen Barrels Pinot Noir 2019
Nanny Goat Vineyard Queensberry Pinot Noir 2020
Carrick Unravalled Pinot Noir 2021
Tititea Pinot Noir 2021
Schubert Block B Pinot Noir 2020
Golden Mile Pinot Noir 2021
Villa Maria EarthGarden Pinot Noir 2020
Huia Pinot Noir 2017
Bob short for Kate Pinot Noir 2020
Huia Sauvignon Blanc 2021
The Corners Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc 2020
Amisfield Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Amisfield Fumé Sauvignon Blanc 2019
Babich Select Blocks Marlborough Organic Sauvignon Blanc 2021
One Off 'Smoke & Mirrors' Organic Sauvignon Blanc 2018
Zephyr Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Matua Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc Organic 2021
Ara Resolute Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Villa Maria EarthGarden Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Loveblock Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Zephyr Chardonnay 2020
Walnut Block Nutcracker Chardonnay 2020
Colere Holon Chardonnay 2020
Astrolabe Wrekin Vineyard Chardonnay 2020
Wrights Reserve Unfiltered Chardonnay 2020
Spoke Chardonnay 2021
October30 Chardonnay 2019
Villa Maria EarthGarden Chardonnay 2021
Giesen Organic Chardonnay 2016
Stoneleigh Organic Chardonnay 2020
Villa Maria EarthGarden Rose 2021
Stoneleigh Organic Rose 2021
The Boneline 'Pink Noise' Rose 2021
Judge Rock 'Innocent' Rose 2020
Amisfield Chenin Blanc 2020
PICNIC by Two Paddocks 2021
Zephyr Riesling 2021
Astrolabe The Farm Dry Riesling 2021
Rippon "Rippon" Riesling 2020



Bronze (continued)

Natural Wine Co. Pinot Gris 2021
Villa Maria EarthGarden Pinot Gris 2021
Richmond Plains Pinot Gris 2020
Amisfield Pinot Gris 2021
The Darling Pinot Gris 2021
Wrights Estate Unfiltered Syrah 2021
October 30 Syrah 2019
Rippon Gamay 2020
Greystone Petillant Natureal Rose 2021
Gibbston Valley Le Maitre Gewurztraminer 2021
Villa Maria EarthGarden Merlot Cabernet Sauvignon 2020
Huia Gruner Veltliner 2021
October30 Gruner Veltliner 2019

Sponsors

We are extremely grateful for our sponsors support. Their kind assistance enables us to minimise our administration costs and keep the awards free of admin fee's for the vineyards, consumers and retailers- further helping us fulfil our mission to grow the market share of New Zealand's organic wines.

Riedel New Zealand

Riedel are the exclusive glassware provider for the event, including judging and tasting sessions. Judging will be completed using the Riedel Overture Magnum glasses, which by many are considered to be the industry standard for wine judging.

Tasting notes on the NZ Organic Wine Awards website are conducted using Veritas varietal specific glass to match each wine, of which we will recommend the perfect glass match.



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